

The CHESAPEAKE

Collection

May 30, 1999

Los Angeles, California



AUCTIONS BY
BOWERS AND
MERENA, INC.

The
CHESAPEAKE
Collection



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Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc.

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About the Cover:

A selection of beautiful coins from the Chesapeake Collection and other consignors.

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Auctions by Bowers and Merena: Bond #018799518 • John Babalis: Bond #018703811

COLOR PLATE I



COLOR PLATE II



2135



2137



2161



2291



2310



2314



2315



2339



2356



2361



2366



2388



2389



2393



2395



2408



2410



2411



2414



2415



2417



2420



2425



2426



2437

COLOR PLATE III



2440



2441



2442



2443



2444



2487



2488



2494



2507



2511



2512



2513



2514



2515



2516



2517



2518

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*Appreciation is extended to the following for the preparation of
this catalogue:*

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Mark Borckardt, John Pack, Beth O. Piper, Frank Van Valen,
and Ray Merena.

Photography by Douglas Plasencia.

Catalogue production by Jennifer Meers, Robin Edgerly,
Roberta French, and Annette Doerr. Catalogue coordination
and advertising by Chris Karstedt.

AND, thanks to the entire Bowers and Merena staff for help
in many ways. The presenting of a sale such as this is a highly
coordinated team effort involving many talented people.

All illustrations are of the actual items being sold.

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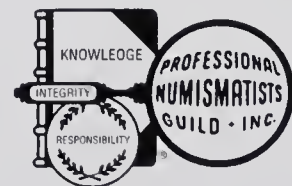
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Atlanta/Boston Room

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 1999

12:30 PM Sharp

We will have a buffet dinner for registered bidders at 5:00 PM.

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 1999

6:00 PM Sharp

LOT VIEWING

Denver Room

THURSDAY, MAY 27

11:00 AM — 1:00 PM • 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 28

9:00 AM — 1:00 PM • 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 29

9:00 AM — 1:00 PM • 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, MAY 30

9:00 AM — 1:00 PM • 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM

LOT PICK-UP

Denver Room

MONDAY, MAY 31

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

AUCTION LOCATION

Los Angeles Airport Marriott
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HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS & INFORMATION:

We strongly recommend that our clients who intend to view a large portion of the sale, plan to do so as early in the lot viewing schedule as possible.

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Fax your bids 24 hours a day! Our fax number is 1-603-569-5319! Be sure to follow up your fax or phone bids with written confirmation.

OFFICE USE ONLY
 No. _____
 Date _____
 Deposit _____
 Max. _____
 O.L.O. _____

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Here are my bids for your **MAY 1999** Chesapeake Collection. I have read the Terms of Sale (printed in the catalogue) and agree to them. I am of legal age. I understand that my bids are per lot. I agree to pay promptly upon receipt of your invoice, including postage and insurance costs.

ATTACH MAILING LABEL OR PRINT CLEARLY

Name <u>John Dow</u>	Customer # _____	Deposit on Sale \$ <u>3,000-</u>
Street or P.O. Box <u>123 Pleasant Street</u>	City <u>Anytown</u> State <u>CA</u> Zip <u>12345</u>	SPECIAL SERVICES Maximum Expenditure \$ <u>12,000-</u>
Daytime Telephone <u>(123) 555-1111</u>	Fax # <u>(123) 555-1234</u>	Please increase my bids 10% <input type="checkbox"/> 20% <input type="checkbox"/> 30% <input type="checkbox"/> if necessary to obtain lots.
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J PLEASE CHECK IF THIS IS A CONFIRMATION OF BIDS SUBMITTED BY PHONE OR FAX.

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LOT	BID	OFFICE USE ONLY	LOT	BID	OFFICE USE ONLY	LOT	BID	OFFICE USE ONLY
{ 1013	300		2014	2,500				
	400		2029	700				
	1020	650						
{ 1111	1,400		2354	600				
	1112	700	2356	1,200				
			2357	800				
{ 1304	3,800		{ 2,402	450				
	1362	4,400	2,407	1,090				
	1378	6,000	2,409	975				
			2501	3,600				
			2516	2,900				

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Are you a dealer? no Do you have a resale number on file with us? _____

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WELCOME TO THE SALE!

Your Personal Invitation to the Chesapeake Collection

Q. David Bowers



Welcome to our sale of the **Chesapeake Collection** and other important properties. Within the American series, comprising over 1,000 lots described on the pages to follow, you will find just about everything. While there are many impressive and notable rarities, there are also interesting groups, popular "type" coins, and other pieces that

will appeal to anyone just entering numismatics. Thus, whether you are a beginner or a long-time specialist, this catalogue is for you!

The sale will be held in Los Angeles, at the Marriott Hotel, not far from the airport. Thus, if you do not plan to travel around the city, there is no need to rent a car or make special arrangements. On the other hand, having spent a notable part of my life (1967-1980) in Los Angeles when our firm was located there, I know the interesting sights, sounds, pleasures, and attractions of this city. Indeed, you could come a week early to go sightseeing, and not come close to everything that the City of Angels offers.

The Marriott Hotel brings back nice memories, as it seems like only yesterday that as part of the American Numismatic Convention display in 1975, we put on view a rare 1913 Liberty Head nickel that we had in stock, and long lines of people came to see it! Since that time, we have visited the hotel on other occasions, including auctions.

Preceding the sale will be our marvelous offering of gold coins, primarily double eagles, recovered from the treasure ship *S.S. Brother Jonathan*, a sidewheel steamer that spent most of its life going in and out of the port of San Francisco, often carrying

golden treasure aboard. Come early enough to look at all of the lots in both the Brother Jonathan and the Chesapeake Collection offerings. And, that is not all. During the following week the Long Beach Convention will be hosted by our fine friend Ronald Gillio, and along the way will be several auctions by various firms inside and outside of the show.

Notable coins in the present catalogue are many, and I will touch briefly on just some of them—allowing the catalogue itself to tell you more. The offering begins with a nice selection of colonial and early American issues, followed by half cents, among which will be found the rare and ever-popular 1793 and the especially rare 1796. Large cents are varied and include high-grade "type" pieces as well as scarce varieties. Small cents hit a rapid stride, and include some truly beautiful Indian cents, the quality of which cannot easily be found elsewhere. Two-cent pieces include some high-grade examples, particularly among the earlier years. Nickel three-cent pieces begin with the first year of issue, 1865, and continue to 1889, and are particularly notable for the low-mintage issues from 1877 through the last year. Choice and gem Proofs abound, providing many opportunities for the admirers of these interesting coins. Silver three-cent pieces include a particularly nice 1857 (elusive in the high grade here offered) and other coins of note. The specialist and enthusiast in the field of nickel five-cent pieces will want to linger for a long time in the appropriate pages of the catalogue, realizing that the Liberty Head nickels, especially the high-grade Proofs, are of a depth, breadth, and quality not likely to be encountered any time in the near future. Then come Buffalo nickels. What should I say about them? Let me simply mention that there are two 1918/7-D overdates, and both are *Mint State*!

Half dimes are very memorable and are highlighted by a specialized collection of die varieties of

the early years, 1794-1805. Search as you may through auction catalogues past and present, and you will find few offerings to match the number of varieties which are offered here. Later silver coins include half dimes of the Capped Bust and Liberty Seated series, some very attractive dimes from the Capped Bust series onward (highlighted by a very rare 1821 dime, JR-2, Rarity-7, the ever-popular 1916-D, and other delicacies), and a selection of 20-cent pieces. Then come quarter dollars, among which will be found scarce dates as well as popular "types," including a choice Mint State 1805 and what may well be the finest known 1854-O.

Half dollars include the rare 1797, a long-time classic and a piece that always attracts attention. Other early half dollars, Capped Bust pieces, Liberty Seated issues, and later coins will also attract your attention. We should also mention some interesting coins produced within the lifetime of many readers—a very nice selection of Franklin half dollars including high-condition pieces.

Silver dollars, which are always a Bowers and Merena specialty—I really couldn't imagine a sale without a nice group of them!—continue our tradition, and include a very nice selection of early pieces by die varieties, dates from 1795 through 1803. After that come some very nice Morgan silver dollars (no doubt the most popular of all 19th-century American series in terms of the number of people collecting them), followed by some very attractive trade dollars (check out the gem 1875-S/CC and the equally nice 1877-CC).

Commemorative coins are among the most desirable of all United States issues. Permit me to quote the *Guide Book of United States Coins*, which states succinctly the following: "The unique position occupied by commemoratives in United States coinage is largely due to the fact that with few exceptions all commemorative coins have a real historical significance. The progress and advance of the people in the New World are presented in an interesting and instructive manner on commemorative issues. Such a record of facts artistically presented on our gold and silver memorial issues appeals strongly to the collector who favors the historical side of numismatics. It is the historical features of commemoratives, in fact,

which create interest among many people who would otherwise have little interest in coins." Let me say at this point that I wholeheartedly agree. In fact, *history* is a good part of the appeal of any coins, but commemoratives bring this aspect to the fore. The owner of the Chesapeake Collection loved commemoratives, and also had the connoisseurship to carefully select coins of simply *extraordinary* quality. Beginning with Lot 1335 in the present catalogue, you can enjoy the fruits of his labor. And, among the pieces are some selections from other consignors, including interesting group lots. If commemoratives are your forte, you will be right at home. If you have not yet discovered commemoratives, this will make an ideal beginning.

Gold coins are another Bowers and Merena specialty. Every once in a while I close my eyes and contemplate the beautiful gold issues we have handled over a long period of years, including the memorable Eliasberg Collection in 1982, the only truly complete collection by date and mintmark ever assembled. The present catalogue offers many treats from dollars to double eagles, including glittering Proofs, a lovely 1808 quarter eagle rarity (one of the finest we have ever seen), a simply amazing 1850 double eagle (the first year of issue), and more.

Territorial gold coins include two impressive and historically interesting \$50 "slugs," as well as other pieces. Pattern coins, yet another Bowers and Merena specialty, come to the fore with some very significant pieces.

When you have reached the end of the catalogue you will have had many opportunities to contemplate and savor. My suggestion is to bid liberally. The market is very active, and my own feeling—based upon some technical experience in economics in addition to numismatics—is that strength will continue in the foreseeable future. My reasoning is based on the following, and while this is not an essay on economics, some ideas may be of interest: The Internet, the electronic age, and other aspects at once cause a de-personalization of people, but also result in increased communication. I expect that the Internet and other electronic media will make numismatics and the appeal of coins and paper money (history, romance, and the potential for investment) available to an ever-

widening audience. Moreover, as a counter to the computer age, the building of a coin collection offers the opportunity for expression and individuality—a fine coin cabinet is a reflection of *your* personality. In the course of having bought, sold, and auctioned thousands of collections over a long period of time (since 1953), I have never seen even two collections that have been the same! If you start today and form a collection of pieces interesting to you, two weeks from now it will be different from any other collection ever formed. In a broader sense, beyond numismatics, I believe that the American economy has weathered a lot of outside pressures (difficulties in Russia, Brazil, and the Pacific Rim, for example), and that the world-wide economic situation, while never stable, is in better order than I have seen it in a long time. Within our own territory, banks seem to be strong, the stock market is solid, and it is an era of good feeling. Even more closely focusing on numismatics, the 1990s has brought with it a new wave of

sophistication—more interesting publications, more research, more information available than ever before. As I see it, the next decade promises more of the same. These are exciting times in coin collecting; here at Bowers and Merena Galleries we are all delighted to be a part of it, and I hope you will share the spirit.

Look through the catalogue carefully, bid liberally on the pieces of greatest interest to you, but also take the time to investigate some new avenues of collecting. On behalf of all of us here, I appreciate your interest and participation in the sale, and wish you the best of success with your bids. Thank you for being a part of this event.

Sincerely yours,



Q. David Bowers

*Another fine
Bowers and Merena sale
is about to begin...*



SESSION ONE

Sunday Afternoon, May 30, 12:30 PM Sharp

Colonial and United States Coins: Lots 1001-1525; 1527-1567

Hawaiian Coin: Lot 1526

COLONIALS

- 1001** (1641-42) Saint Patrick or Mark Newby farthing. Breen-213, stars in legends. VG-8 overall; sharper in areas, weaker in other areas. Medium tan, some roughness on both sides. Brass splasher intact at crown. Obverse weak at center, harp string count uncertain, face of harp points directly between legs of R in FLOREAT, EAT of that word worn, star between crown and REX, three stars, diminishing in size, follow REX. Reverse with I, S, and T of QVIESCAT very small in comparison to the other letters of that word, two crosses atop bishop's mitre, two stars in punctuation above bishop's head, P of PLEBS the only letter of that word visible, weak at the center, scurrying animals, metropolitan cross, and church all plain, other details fairly well worn, bishop's hand points to upright of E in QVIESCAT.

Weight: 73.1 grains; Diameter: 23.8 mm.

From our sale of the Norweb Collection, March 1988, Lot 2366. Obtained for the Norweb Collection from Hollinbeck Stamp and Coin Company on June 20, 1956.

- 1002** Pair of William Wood favorites: ☆ 1722 Rosa Americana penny. Breen-116, Crosby IV, 4. Two reverse rosettes. VF-30. Attractive olive-brown. Some minuscule surface roughness present, typical for the type, but still nice ☆ 1723 Hibernia farthing. Breen-172. Net VF-20; appearance of EF-40 or so, but burnished long ago. Chocolate brown. A nice pair overall. (Total: 2 pieces)

Wood secured the license to coin money from King George, and did so, intending to circulate the Rosa Americana pieces in the far-off colonies. The Hibernia coins, a separate issue, were intended for Ireland, "Hibernia" being the ancient name for the country. It seems that both types of coinage were mainly circulated in England, intentions notwithstanding.



- 1003** 1773 Virginia halfpenny. Breen-180, Newman-21N. Seven Harp Strings, Period after S. MS-60 BN. Rich golden brown with darker olive on the devices. Traces of original red appear on the reverse. A few very minor marks are noted, however, the surfaces are very pleasing overall. Very slightly reflective fields. The Virginia halfpennies are comparatively common in Mint State preservation, the result of a hoard discovered prior to the Civil War and passed through the Colonel Mendes I. Cohen family, the remainder being sold in the late 1920s.

Weight: 118.1 grains, Diameter: 24.6 mm.

- 1004** (1672-94) Elephant token. GOD PRESERVE LONDON. Breen-186, Hodder-2B. VG-8. Chocolate brown. An amazing item if you will, a *flip-over double strike*. Struck slightly off center, with details of two rims evident in several places on each side. The most convincing evidence of its flip-over status is the appearance of the letters LON at the rim behind the elephant's hindquarters; other areas at the rim are worn fairly smooth, and no other physical evidence is apparent anywhere on the coin.

Weight: 233.1 grains; Diameter: 29.7 mm.

- 1005** 1783 J. Chalmers silver sixpence. Breen-1013, Crosby IX, 8. AG-3/G-6. Light golden gray. Obverse well worn, ANNAPO the clearest details there; reverse details plain though worn toward the periphery, hence the split grade. *Punctuated Date* (actually the end of an ornament gives the appearance of a period between 17 and 83 of the date). A rarity in all grades.

Weight: 28.3 grains; Diameter: 16.9 mm.

- 1006** 1783 Nova Constellatio copper. Breen-1109, Crosby-3C. Small U.S., Blunt Rays. Incorrect CONSTELATIO spelling. Net VF-20; sharpness of VF-30. Pleasing dark brown with a few minor rim bruises accounting for the net grade assigned. This design was prepared by George Wyon, III, and struck by him in Birmingham, England, apparently on order of Gouverneur Morris. Contemporary accounts published in London suggested that these were made for America.

Weight: 122.0 grains, Diameter: 27.2 mm.

- 1007** 1786 New Jersey copper. Maris-21N. Wide Shield. EF-40. Rahway Mint. Medium tan. Sharpness easily congruent with the grade, but some dark detritus and patina clings to both sides; this may possibly be removed with some judicious treatment. A group of tiny scratches is found at the horse's head.

Weight: 158.1 grains; Diameter: 28.3 mm.

- 1008** 1783 Washington & Independence. Large Military Bust. Breen-1203, Crosby X, 1. VF-30. Plain edge. Medium brown, gradually darkening toward the borders. Streaks of lighter tan are noted on the reverse, giving an appearance sometimes described as woodgrain. A natural edge flaw is noted at 3:00 on the reverse. Designed and engraved by Thomas Wells Ingram (whose initials appear at the bottom of the reverse) and struck at the Soho Mint in Birmingham, England.

Weight: 108.8 grains, Diameter: 27.9 mm.

HALF CENTS

We present a very attractive selection of half cents, commencing with the first year of issue, 1793, including along the way the elusive 1796, followed in due course by the scarce 1802, after which will be found various scarce and not so scarce dates.

Pleasing 1793 Half Cent



- 1009 1793 Breen-2, Cohen-2. Rarity-3. Net F-12;** sharpness of EF-45, very dark olive with heavy corrosion and a few other minor scratches. All details are crisp and clear with the impression well centered. Actually a very pleasing example despite the description. This coin is ideal for the collector who wants a lot of design detail at moderate cost.

The authorship of the 1793 half cent is not known with certainty, but is popularly attributed to Adam Eckfeldt. The workmanship is quite a bit different from the similarly styled liberty cap of 1793 by Joseph Wright, the latter being an artist of exceptionally high merit who unfortunately died during the epidemic that swept Philadelphia in August and September 1793. Eckfeldt worked at the Mint for many years thereafter, finally retiring, but visiting the Mint almost every day to see his friends and family members. (Nepotism was the rule, not the exception, in those days).



- 1010 1794 B-2b, C-2a. Small Edge Letters. Net VF-20;** sharpness of EF-40, porous. Medium tan and dark brown with moderate porosity evenly distributed on both surfaces. A few minor scratches and other impairments are noted. Heavy clash marks are visible in front of the neck and chin.

The half cents of 1794 are actually a different design type or style than those of 1795, although both appear the same—the head of Miss Liberty facing right, with the liberty cap behind her head. On the 1794 issues the portrait is much larger and differently styled, while on the 1795 (also 1796 and 1797) the portrait is smaller, giving a cameo effect to the overall presentation. In the early years, the Mint acquired copper wherever it could—including from sheeting intended for ship bottoms or taken off of ships that were being repaired in the Philadelphia harbor, from roofing, and scrap. The quality varied widely, and the characteristics were often imparted to the coins. Thus, half cents of 1794 are well known for being dark and somewhat rough in overall appearance (in contrast, half cents of the following year, 1795, are often smooth and glossy).



- 1011 1795 B-6c, C-6a. No Pole, Plain edge. VF-20.** A lovely half cent struck over a 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee token, with NEW YORK. The undertype is most plainly visible above AMERICA on the reverse. Olive-brown and steel with very pleasing surfaces displaying only a few very minor hairline scratches. Nicely centered with wide borders on both obverse and reverse.

Weight: 92.4 grains.

Early die state without traces of die rust or bulging.

This variety exists on rolled copper planchets (scarce), on misstruck large cents that were cutdown to half cent size (rare), and on tokens, primarily Talbot, Allum & Lee tokens as offered here. Although such pieces are readily available, the overstriking feature is extremely interesting and adds a dimension of desirability. To find an example with a considerable amount of the undertype remaining, as on the present piece, is fairly unusual.

Important 1796 Half Cent

With Pole Variety
A Key Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1012 1796 B-2a, C-2. Rarity-4. With Pole. G-4.** Quite attractive despite the low grade. Deep olive-brown with faint blue iridescence. Moderate pitting is scattered about both obverse and reverse. The obverse border is nearly complete, the date is full and sharp, and LIBERTY is almost complete with RTY weak. On the reverse, the border is not visible, however, all of the legend is complete, a few letters weak at the very tops. The wreath is fully defined with just a few weak leaves, and the numerator and fraction bar are both full, the denominator missing. The majority of low-grade survivors are rough and porous, this example being much nicer than usually encountered. An important opportunity.

Early die state without traces of a die bulge sometimes seen in the left obverse field. The 1796 half cent has been a well-known rarity for a long time, and even in the cradle days of numismatics, in the 1850s, examples were highly desired. It seems that during the year they were struck, 1796, a number of pieces migrated across the Atlantic to England, where they were included in cabinets of numismatists who eagerly sought the pieces from the former American colonies. Decades later American dealers made pilgrimages to England and often repatriated coins of the 1790s, including on occasion a nice 1796 half cent or two. An expanded discussion of the situation is found in Dave Bowers' book, *American Coin Treasures and Hoards* (now in its second printing).

Dramatic 1797 Overstrike



- 1013 1797 B-2c, C-2. Rarity-5. Plain edge. VF-20.** An important offering, struck over a 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee token, Fuld 2.

The bottoms of LUM & LEE are visible in the dentils over LIBERTY with a considerable amount of the ship's rigging clearly evident in the right obverse field. Light tan surfaces are blended with darker steel and maroon; light corrosion and minor surface marks are present. The importance of this offering cannot be overstated. Perhaps only 30 to 40 overstruck examples from these half cent dies have been identified. Certainly, more people are studying the overstrikes carefully, however, we do not expect many to be discovered in the future.

Weight: 86.4 grains.

- 1014 Selection of half cents:** ☆ 1800 B-1, C-1. Net VF-35; sharpness of EF-45, cleaned ☆ 1804 B-8, C-9. Crosslet 4, With Stems. Net VF-20; sharpness of EF-45, cleaned and scratched ☆ 1804 B-10, C-13. Plain 4, Stemless. AU-50, cleaned ☆ 1805 B-1, C-1. Stemless. EF-45, cleaned ☆ 1807 B-1, C-1. AU-50, cleaned ☆ 1808 B-3, C-3. EF-40, cleaned. (Total: 6 pieces)

Attractive 1802/0 Half Cent



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1015 1802/0 B-2, C-2. Rarity-3. Reverse of 1802. VF-20.** Dark brown with lighter tan on the devices, accented by faint blue and lilac. Although microscopic porosity is noted, the surfaces appear quite pristine without magnification. A few very minor surface marks are visible. The obverse border is slightly weak at 3:00 while all other details are strong. This is the key date among Draped Bust half cents, with all known examples of both varieties from this single overdated obverse die. An important feature of the present offering is the strength of detail at the center of the reverse. The vast majority of known examples have the words HALF CENT quite weak, and in some cases missing entirely.

Intermediate die state with die cracks from rim to left top of the first T and right top of E in STATES.

The copper used in 1802 for half cents was of uncertain quality, in a situation discussed under Lot 1010. In the present instance Walter Breen feels that half cents of the 1802 date were struck on planchets cut from misstruck copper cents, which may or may not be correct. However, half cents usually are on rather rough planchets, whereas the cents of 1802 and immediately preceding years are often glossy, so there seems to be a disparity in this reasoning.

- 1016 1803 B-1, C-1.** Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, but a light bend is noted at Miss Liberty's shoulder. Probably cleaned long ago, but now aged to a pleasing glossy olive-brown on each side with a few minimal marks present. Also noted are a few rough planchet flaws, as made.



- 1017 1804 B-1, C-1. Rarity-3+. Crosslet 4, With Stems. EF-40.** Pleasing mottled olive and black obverse and somewhat lighter reverse. Magnification reveals some light verdigris, otherwise a glossy and pleasing example. A rarity at this grade level. Breen notes that this variety is rarely seen above VF. An important example for the specialist, which is a solid candidate for the Condition Census.

- 1018 1804 B-7, C-8. Spiked Chin. EF-45.** Glossy olive surfaces with a slight red tinge to the highest points. The reverse devices and legend have some light verdigris, but only a minor distraction. While somewhat more common than the companion variety, Breen-6, this is still a nice example of the "spiked chin" variety and popular with collectors.

While in our catalogues we list both Breen and Cohen numbers, years ago there was a division separating adherence of each book, with some swearing by the Cohen reference and others dedicated to Breen—similar to Democrats vs. Republicans, or vegetarians vs. carnivores. We note in the recent excellent catalogue done by Tom Reynolds for the Early American Coppers Club that only Cohen numbers are used. Speaking of numbers, years ago we all used to identify half cents by Gilbert varieties. Today, "G" numbers are rarely seen and are about as scarce as "Doughty" or "Hays" numbers for large cents.

- 1019 1805 B-4, C-4. Large 5. EF-45.** Dark olive and steel brown with sharp design details and a few very minor surface impairments. A pleasing example of a not-so-common Draped Bust half cent issue. Among this design type, only those dated 1804 and 1806 can be considered common, all other dates are scarce or rare.

- 1020 Quartette of half cents:** ☆ 1806 B-3, C-1. Small 6, Stemless. EF-45. Smooth brown with mint red visible at the devices ☆ 1828 B-2, C-3. 13 Stars. AU-50. Soft golden brown surfaces ☆ 1829 B-1, C-1. EF-40. Dark brown with pale olive green highlights, mostly on the reverse ☆ 1835 B-1, C-1. MS-60. Glossy brown surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1021 Trio of half cents** ☆ 1806 B-3, C-1. Small 6, Stemless. EF-45 ☆ 1828 B-2, C-3. 13 Stars. EF-40 ☆ 1837 half cent token. AU-58. A very pleasing high-grade offering. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1022 Half cent quintette:** ☆ 1806 B-4, C-4. Large 6. Net EF-40; sharpness of EF-45, cleaned and retuned ☆ 1809/6 B-5, C-5. Overdate. Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, cleaned ☆ 1828 B-3, C-2. 12 Stars. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned ☆ 1851 B-1, C-1. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned ☆ 1854 B-1, C-1. Net AU-55; sharpness of MS-62, cleaned. A useful group. (Total: 5 pieces)



- 1023 1808/7 B-2, C-2. Overdate. VF-20.** This is a wonderful example of an overdate issue that has become increasingly scarce over the years, especially in nicer circulated grades. Dark olive-brown and steel with only a few minor traces of corrosion, most prominent at TY on the obverse.

For reasons not known today, this particular overdate variety is exceedingly scarce in any grade better than VF, and in VF-20 as here offered it is certainly elusive.

- 1024** 1809 B-4, C-3. Normal Date. MS-61 BN (NGC). Lustrous deep brown surfaces with some faint mint red in the protected areas. Glossy and well struck with bold definition in the central details. The denticles are weak in areas due to die erosion. Slightly rotated reverse die, a condition described by Breen as rarely appearing.
- 1025** 1809 B-6, C-6. Normal Date. AU-55. Smooth chocolate brown on each side with some deeper highlights near the rims. Well struck with bold design details through Miss Liberty's curls. Moderately heavy die erosion lines are visible toward the periphery presenting some original lustre.
- 1026** 1810 B-1, C-1. EF-45. An outstanding example with dark olive and steel toning. The surfaces are very smooth and free of impairments. Very nicely detailed. This is a scarce issue, especially in higher grades, although it is often overlooked as collectors concentrate on the much scarcer 1811 issue.

Outstanding 1811 Half Cent

Breen-2, Cohen-2



- 1027** 1811 B-2, C-2. Close Date. EF-40. Deep steel brown surfaces with a faint obverse scratch and minor reverse corrosion. This is a very scarce date in higher grades, the majority of survivors being Very Good or lower quality. This is the final half cent issue prior to a 13-year intermission; the next examples of this denomination were struck in 1825.

For many years, this cataloguer (Mark Borckardt) struggled to attribute the half cents of 1811, even though there are only two varieties. Both look very similar with the primary distinction being the spacing of the date. Breen-1, Cohen-1 has a wide date while Breen-2, Cohen-2 has a closer date. The differences are not significant and attribution was difficult.

Attribution today is a snap, thanks to a note that I read in a now unidentified reference. Star 13 is centered between the border and hair curl on the Wide Date variety and virtually touches the border on the Close Date variety. The differences are distinct and easy to spot.

- 1028** Mixed group of half cents, each having been cleaned in the past or with other problems, but some remaining attractive: ☆ 1825 B-2, C-2. AU-50. ☆ 1826 B-1, C-1. MS-64 BN. Not cleaned, but with a fine obverse scratch. Still, attractive ☆ 1832 B-2, C-2. MS-62 ☆ 1850 B-1, C-1. MS-60 ☆ 1854 B-1, C-1. MS-60. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 1029** 1829 B-1, C-1. MS-64 BN. A superb, sharply struck example with lustrous light brown, pale blue, and lilac surfaces. A few very minor spots are noted, one above the head and a few on the reverse. Mint State 1829 half cents are certainly scarcer than those dated 1828, or any from 1832 through 1835.
- 1030** Three half cents grading MS-63: ☆ 1833 B-1, C-1 ☆ 1853 B-1, C-1 ☆ 1856 B-1, C-1. All are brown with very pleasing surfaces. A very attractive trio. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1031** 1834 B-1, C-1. MS-64 BN. Smooth medium brown surfaces with some reverse mint lustre. Sharp and attractive.
- 1032** 1835 B-1, C-1. MS-65 BN. Lustrous medium brown with sharp design details and light clash marks visible on both obverse and reverse. A superb example with pristine surfaces.

- 1033** 1835 B-1, C-1. MS-64 BN. Sharply struck with attractive olive and light tan lustre. Light clash marks are visible.
- 1034** 1835 B-1, C-1. MS-63 BN. Lustrous smooth brown surfaces with highlights of pale blue and russet. A tiny planchet lamination is noted on the reverse at the lower left ribbon. Pleasing and attractive.
- 1035** 1849 B-4, C-1. Large Date. MS-63 BN. Light brown with traces of faded red on the reverse. A sharp, attractive example. This is a scarce date that is seldom found in Mint State quality. Ideal for the first-year type collector concentrating on business strike issues.
- 1036** Trio of half cents: ☆ 1851 B-1, C-1 (2). AU-50 and EF-40 ☆ 1854 B-1, C-1. AU-58. Each is lovely medium brown. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1037** 1855 B-1, C-1. MS-64 RB. A delightful Braided Hair half cent with sharp design details and nearly full original mint red, just beginning to fade to light brown. A few very minor spots are scattered across both surfaces.
- 1038** 1857 B-1, C-1. MS-63 RB. An attractive example of this final half cent issue, sharply struck at the centers, weaker toward the borders. The obverse is medium brown with a frame of original red inside the border. The reverse is nearly full red, just beginning to fade to light brown. A desirable half cent.

Writing in 1860, Mint Director James Ross Snowden said that the majority of 1857 copper cents had been held back at the Mint and melted. Thus, the published production figure of 35,180, while the smallest of its era, is more generous than the availability of specimens suggest.

LARGE CENTS



- 1039** 1793 Sheldon-11a. Rarity-4+. Wreath, Vine and Bars edge. G-5. Dark brown fields with lighter tan devices. A few minor scratches and other imperfections are visible on the obverse border and edge. The reverse has a tiny spot of light green corrosion. A very pleasing, lower grade example of this popular design type, the most affordable 1793 cent design.
- 1040** 1795 S-76b. Plain edge. Net VG-8; sharpness of EF-40, tooled. The obverse has been lightly tooled to smooth out light corrosion. The reverse has light corrosion along with a few other impairments.



- 1041** 1810 S-285. Rarity-3. Normal Date. EF-40. Very dark steel brown with microscopic corrosion. The design details are all quite sharp. On the obverse, the border is comparatively wide

from 12:00 to 7:00, while the reverse has a wider border from 11:00 to 5:00. An interesting coin to study as the widest obverse border is opposite the narrowest reverse border and vice-versa. The obverse and reverse dies must have been misaligned on their vertical axes.

- 1042** 1816 Newcomb-2. MS-61 BN (NGC). Medium brown with reasonably sharp design details, although not fully struck. The obverse has heavy rim crumbling from 1:00 to 3:00. The reverse is rotated clockwise approximately 45°. This is a popular Randall Hoard variety, although not as frequently seen as the 1818 or 1820-dated issues from this hoard.

Popularly called the *Matron* style, nomenclature suggested, we believe, by Ken Bressett—who at one time swept through the early American series and sought to assign designations to types and subtypes that did not already have them. On the other hand, the term *Classic Head*, describing cents of the 1808-1814 era, was in use by the 1850s, or over 150 years ago.

- 1043** Pair of dark glossy brown large cents: ☆ 1819/8 N-1. Overdate EF-40 ☆ 1826 N-5. AU-50. A very nice pair, each being somewhat scarce in its respective context and grade. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1044** 1820 N-13. Large Date. MS-63 BN. Lustrous dark olive with sharp central design details. The perimeter of both obverse and reverse are slightly weak. A very pleasing example of this popular Randall Hoard issue.
- 1045** Matron Head and Coronet duo: ☆ 1820 N-13. Large Date. AU-58. Medium brown surfaces with splashes of ebony ☆ 1855 N-4. Upright 5s. MS-64 RB. Lustrous and attractive surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1046** Pair of Mint State large cents: ☆ 1832 N-1. MS-60. Cleaned and recolored ☆ 1856 N-14. Slanting 5. MS-63 BN. Attractive soft brown surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1047** 1833 N-2. MS-64 BN. Sharply struck and highly lustrous. Dark brown is blended with mahogany. A very attractive example. In Mint State preservation, large cents minted from 1821 to 1836 are much scarcer than other years of the design type, as no large hoards have ever been found.
- 1048** 1838 N-6. MS-64 BN. Sharply struck and highly lustrous light golden olive with splashes of maroon on the obverse. A very small spot of corrosion is noted on the obverse rim at 9:00. An attractive cent for the date or type collector.

Memorable Mint State 1840 Cent



- 1049** 1840 N-8. Large Date. MS-64 RD (NGC). Bright pinkish orange lustre is just beginning to deepen. All design details are sharp and the overall aesthetic appeal is quite high. Although a common variety, seldom do these appear in nice Mint State quality. This is probably among the top dozen known for the variety.

Condition Census 1842 N-2 Cent



- 1050** 1842 N-2. Small Date. MS-65 RB (PCGS). A very pleasing large cent with deep orange lustre blended with dark brown. Faint traces of bluish overtones are present. Quite sharply struck although the obverse stars are mostly flat. This lovely example is certainly among the top half dozen known for the variety.
- 1051** 1843 N-4. Obverse of 1842, Reverse of 1844. MS-65 RB (PCGS). Lustrous, dark brown surfaces display considerable original red. Although this is a common variety, the transitional nature of this die marriage lends considerable interest to collectors of major varieties. This is the final year in which the so-called *Petite Head* appeared on the obverse, and the very first year with the larger letter font on the reverse.

The *Petite Head* nomenclature is believed to be another attribution suggested by Kenneth E. Bressett for use in the *Guide Book of United States Coins*.



- 1052** 1847 N-4. MS-65 RB (PCGS). A lovely example of this variety with deep bluish brown surfaces highlighted by generous portions of original mint red lustre. The obverse die of this variety is immediately recognized by a very sharply doubled "1" visible below the final placement of this digit. This is an early die state of the variety, the reverse perfect without the die cracks normally seen. Certainly a Condition Census example of this variety, one of the very finest seen.
- 1053** 1847 N-19. MS-64 RB (PCGS). Sharply struck with very pleasing medium brown surfaces. Significant original red is visible on both obverse and reverse, more prominent on the obverse. This is a lovely high-grade example of the variety, one of the finer known.
- 1054** 1847 N-23. Rarity-5. MS-63 BN (NGC). Sharp and glossy with medium brown surfaces. Some scattered verdigris is visible on each side under low magnification. Still an attractive example of this scarcer variety. A distinctive array of spidery reverse die cracks aids in quick identification.
- 1055** Pair of Coronet Head large cents: ☆ 1848 N-6. AU-50. Iridescent blue, green, and golden brown toning over both surfaces ☆ 1851 N-3. 51 over 81. AU-55. Light chocolate brown surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1056** 1850 N-7. MS-65 BN (NGC). Glossy deep olive brown surfaces, uniform and lovely. Obverse central details are bold, while those of the reverse are somewhat soft. Judging from the heavy die erosion lines and weakness at the peripheries, both dies had seen extensive use by the time this coin was struck.

Memorable 1850 N-9 Cent

Possibly the Finest Known



- 1057 1850 N-9. MS-65 RD (PCGS).** This lovely gem cent is full bright original red with a splash of dark toning on the upper hairlines above IB of LIBERTY. A few other minor spots are noted, particularly on the obverse. Both obverse and reverse surfaces are very slightly reflective. This is one of the very finest known examples of this variety, possibly *the* finest.

From a late state of the dies with the date quite weak. The reverse has a strong die crack from the border over the first A in AMERICA continuing through the tops of ME. An important opportunity for the die state specialist.



- 1058 1850 N-15. MS-66 BN (NGC).** Smooth and lustrous medium brown surfaces. Faint traces of mint red and highlights of pale blue toning add visual appeal. Well struck with bold details all around. A lovely high-grade example.



- 1059 1850 N-23. MS-66 BN (NGC).** Rich dark chocolate brown with mottled highlights of sea green. Lustrous surfaces complement the colors and offer very nice aesthetic quality. Sharp design details on both sides with nearly all star details complete except for some slight softness noted on star 5.
- 1060 1851 N-41. Rarity-4. MS-65 BN (NGC).** Pleasing smooth medium brown surfaces with some lustre visible. Generous traces of original mint red are visible on the reverse fields.
- 1061 1852 N-11. MS-65 RB (NGC).** Lustrous red brown surfaces. Struck in a later state of the dies showing significant roughness around the stars, legends, and areas of the devices where metal flow is the greatest. The heavy die break which forms over TES O on the reverse in the latest states does not show.
- 1062 1852 N-22. MS-65 RB (NGC).** Pleasing surfaces on both sides show some original mint red, though mostly on the reverse side. Extensive flow lines from erosion of the dies appear across the obverse and somewhat less so on the reverse, but outer design details are softened as a result on both sides. Aesthetically quite pleasing.

- 1063 1853 N-3. MS-65 BN (NGC).** Lustrous medium brown with traces of mint red in the protected areas. Moderate metal flow is noted on the obverse and around the reverse legend as well.

- 1064 1853 N-10. MS-65 RB (NGC).** Lustrous surfaces with red and brown evenly distributed across each side. A horizontal lint mark is noted on Miss Liberty's neck. An attractive specimen struck from moderately worn dies.



- 1065 1853 N-14. MS-66 BN (NGC).** Highly lustrous and sharply struck with deep steel brown surfaces and very faint traces of mint red. This is among the finer known examples, probably within the top half dozen survivors. From a very late state of the dies, the obverse having a long rim break beginning halfway between stars 11 and 12, and continuing almost to star 13.



- 1066 1853 N-25. MS-66 RB (NGC).** Highly lustrous red and brown surfaces. A few tiny marks are visible under magnification, but these are minor distractions. Sharp central design features in spite of having been struck from somewhat eroded dies. A lovely gem type coin.

Wonderful 1853 Large Cent



- 1067 1853 N-25. MS-65 RD (PCGS).** A superb example with sharp design details and full pinkish mint red on both obverse and reverse. The obverse has two or three very small oxidation spots, most noticeable in the right obverse field and left of Miss Liberty's eye; otherwise, the surfaces of this lovely gem are absolutely pristine. Numerous high-grade examples of this variety exist today, however, we cannot imagine many that would match this specimen.
- 1068 1853 N-25. MS-65 RB (NGC).** A duplicate of the preceding variety, this example displays a nice blend of dark brown and mint red. The reverse is nearly full original red just beginning to darken on the high points of the devices. A pleasing example of the variety, ideal for the date or type collector.
- 1069 1853 N-25. MS-65 RB (NGC).** Another attractive specimen of this variety. Still with light marks visible, commensurate with

the grade, but again sharply struck and with lustrous red brown surfaces. Some minor carbon spotting is noted on the obverse.

- 1070** 1853 N-25. MS-65 BN (NGC). Lustrous brown surfaces with attractive highlights of rose, gold, and olive green. Two obverse carbon spots are noted near star four.



- 1071** 1854 N-8. MS-66 RB (NGC). The satiny brown devices stand out against rich brown fields blended with magenta and soft mint orange. A most pleasing visual effect. Well struck with all central details and star centers sharply defined. Much unfinished die work is visible around the denticles under magnification.

- 1072** 1855 N-4. Upright 55. MS-65 RB (NGC). Lustrous medium brown with traces of pleasing mint red showing through. Some trivial spotting is noted on the reverse. An easily identifiable variety distinguished by three small lumps on Miss Liberty's neck.



- 1073** 1855 N-9. Knob on Ear. MS-66 BN (NGC). Glossy and uniform medium brown surfaces. Some very light traces of verdigris are visible under magnification. An ever popular *Guide Book* variety easily identified by the large lump on top of and above Miss Liberty's ear. This specimen shows the mass well advanced, but not quite as far as it becomes later in the use of the die.

- 1074** 1856 N-6. Upright 5. MS-65 BN (NGC). Satiny and lustrous red and brown surfaces. Somewhat softly struck as the star details are rather weak. Still an attractive gem example.

Gem 1859 Indian Cent First Year of Issue



- 1079** 1859 MS-65. A lustrous light tan gem specimen of this first Indian cent. Superb in every regard. Although pattern Indian cents were issued in 1858, this is the first year of issue once the design was introduced into the normal coinage system.

The Flying Eagle design was found to be unsatisfactory, for the heavy wreath on the reverse was opposite in the dies from the head and tail of the eagle on the obverse. Unless the dies were precisely adjusted, this resulted in weakness on these features of the eagle, or on the reverse wreath. Accord-

SMALL CENTS

Our offering of Flying Eagle, Indian, and Lincoln cents is quite memorable, especially within the Indian Head series. Scarce varieties, gem-quality Mint State and Proof coins, and more are presented for your bidding selection. Considering the great interest in the market at present, and the elusive quality of high-grade coins, we expect much bidding competition.



- 1075** 1857 Flying Eagle. MS-64. Bright golden tan with sharp design details. A lovely example of the first widely collectible small cent issue. This coin exhibits a very late state of the obverse die with narrow, weak borders and small die breaks confined to the rim.

Cents of the new design were first released into circulation on May 25, 1857, at which time two payment windows were set up outside of the Mint—one changing new cents for old, and the other exchanging Spanish-American and other silver coins for the new cent. Long lines were formed of people waiting their turn.

The obverse design was copied by James B. Longacre from Christian Gobrecht's attractive Flying Eagle design used on the 1836 silver dollar. The reverse was copied from Longacre's own wreath first used in 1854 on the new Type II gold dollar and on the \$3 piece.

- 1076** 1857 Flying Eagle. MS-63. Sharply struck with lustrous dark tan surfaces. The date and legend show signs of doubling, most likely created during the process of striking the coin. Additionally, a very minor planchet clip is noted at 11:00. On the edge of this point, some light green corrosion is visible.

- 1077** 1857 Flying Eagle. MS-63. Lustrous light golden tan surfaces with moderately sharp design details, the strike being typical of most Flying Eagle cents. A few very minor surface marks appear scattered about, quite consistent with the assigned grade.

- 1078** Trio of Flying Eagle and Indian Head cents: ☆ 1857 AU-50. Lustrous with a hint of golden brown ☆ 1858 Large Letters. MS-60. Lustrous. Light obverse planchet voids are noted at 9:00 and 1:00 ☆ 1859 AU-58. Lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

ingly, beginning in 1858, experiments were conducted to revise the design, with the result being the Indian Head motif by Longacre. (Interested readers may wish to refer to a detailed essay on this subject, by William Gibbs, in our *Rare Coin Review* No. 65, such article being reprinted from *Coin World*.) Numerous patterns employing the Indian Head obverse were created in 1858, the best known of which is Pollock-253 (also known as Judd-208), a design identical except for the date to the 1859 offered here.

On the Indian cent design, the Indian motif is at the center of the obverse, and the wreath is around the outside border of the reverse, so these prominent features are not opposite each other in the dies, and thus the metal flow problem was solved.

The laurel wreath was used on the reverse only in 1859, after which it was discontinued in favor of the oak wreath and shield motif, employed from 1860 through the end of the series in 1909. The Mint wasn't quite sure of the vegetation used to compose the wreath, and in some instances it was called a *laurel wreath*, in other instances *olive*.

From our sale of the Rogers M. Fred, Jr. and Peter A. Ward, M.D. Collections, November 1995, Lot 3260. Previously from our sale of the Bebee Collection, August 1987, Lot 74.

1080 Indian Cent trio: ☆ 1859 MS-63. Lustrous and well struck. Only year of this design type ☆ 1860 MS-64. Sharply struck and lustrous. A slight scrape is noted on Liberty's cheek ☆ 1861 MS-63. A sharply struck example with subdued mint lustre. An attractive and desirable lot. (Total: 3 pieces)

1081 Indian cent group: ☆ 1859 EF-45 ☆ 1860 AU-50 ☆ 1865 MS-60 RB ☆ 1874 MS-62 RB ☆ 1884 MS-62 BN ☆ 1888 MS-63 RB ☆ 1891 MS-63 RB ☆ 1892 MS-63 RD. (Total: 8 pieces)



1082 1860 Pointed Bust. MS-64. A superb, sharply struck example of this scarce variety. All design details are bold with the exception of the diamonds on the Indian's ribbon and the lowest curls of hair behind her neck. This variety was struck from the old Indian Head hub which was in use in 1859 and 1860. A modified hub was introduced in 1860 to produce additional coin dies from that point forward. The modified hub has a more rounded end to the bust. This variety is quite scarce and continues to meet with considerable demand.

Superb Cameo Proof 1862 Indian 1¢

Tied for Finest Certified by NGC



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1083 1862 Proof-67 (NGC). Scintillating golden rose iridescence evenly distributed on frosty motifs and deep mirror fields. Easily a winner in the "eye appeal" category. Sharply struck and essentially free of any unsightly impairments. Of the tiny group of Proofs of this date that have been assigned this grade, it is difficult to imagine a more beautiful survivor. Tied for finest graded by NGC.

NGC Census: 3; none finer.

Regarding Proof 1862 Indian cents, in *A Buyer's and Enthusiast's Guide to Flying Eagle and Indian Cents*, Q. David Bowers noted that the issue is: "Widely available, although most are not choice. Some high-grade pieces have frosty devices and present a cameo-like appearance."

Gem Proof 1862 Indian Cent

Superbly Toned



1084 1862 Proof-65 (PCGS). A lovely example with light cameo contrast and sharp design details. The obverse is medium brown

with lighter gold around the borders. Very faint rose toning is detected on the high points of the design. The reverse is primarily light olive-tan. A most attractive example for a high-quality date or type set.

1085 1862 MS-65 (PCGS). Highly lustrous and sharply struck with light golden olive surfaces. A most attractive example of this copper-nickel composition. Considering this issue's status as a "common-date," it is ideal for the type collector. Of course, in gem Mint State quality, none of these can truly be considered common.

1086 Early 1860s date sequence: ☆ 1862 MS-64 (Hallmark) ☆ 1863 MS-63 (Hallmark) ☆ 1864 copper-nickel MS-63 (PCGS). An attractive group. (Total: 3 pieces)

1087 Certified small cent selection: ☆ 1863 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1904 MS-63 RB (PCGS) ☆ 1909-S Lincoln. MS-64 RD (PCGS) ☆ 1916 MS-65 RD (NGC) ☆ 1918 MS-64 RD (NGC) ☆ 1922-D MS-64 RD (PCGS). (Total: 6 pieces)



1088 1864 Copper-nickel. MS-66 (NGC). A superb example of the final issue from the copper-nickel composition. This lovely gem is sharply struck with bright golden lustre. The surfaces are very nearly flawless.

1089 1864 Bronze. MS-65 RB (PCGS). Mainly lustrous brown with red highlights imparting an attractive woodgrain effect.

1090 1864 Bronze. MS-65 RB (NGC). A lovely example of the first bronze composition Indian cent with sharp design details and attractive orange mint lustre blended with light brown. The upper left portion displays substantial weakness.

1091 Early-date Indian Cent trio: ☆ 1864 Bronze. MS-64 RB (PCGS). Sharply struck ☆ 1866 MS-63 BN (NGC). Attractive glossy surfaces ☆ 1875 MS-63 BN (NGC). A valuable and desirable group. (Total: 3 pieces)

1092 Grouping of Indian Head cents: ☆ 1864 Bronze. MS-63 BN ☆ 1865 Fancy 5. MS-64 BN ☆ 1869/9 Overdate. F-12 ☆ 1873 Open 3. AU-55 ☆ 1874 MS-60 BN. Each piece displays pleasing and attractive surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)



1093 1864 L on ribbon. MS-66 RB (NGC). A remarkable gem, nearly full mint red, with extremely sharp design details. Every minute detail is bold, including the individual veins in the Indian's headdress. The lustre is essentially fully original red, however, beginning to fade to brown, thus the designation.

The Indian Head design was executed by James B. Longacre who decided it would be nice to include his initial on the coin. The letter L appears on the ribbon which is between the last feather and the hair curl below. Interestingly, although the "L" feature is well known to collectors today and, in fact, is recognized by anyone who has taken Indian Cent Collecting-101, we cannot seem to locate any mention of this feature in a coin publication within the several years immediately after it was made. It seems evident that in 1871 some *restrikes* were made of *Proof* 1864 cents with L on the ribbon, but even at this date we haven't come across any contemporary mention of the desirability of the L feature. Perhaps Proofs were simply made of 1864

bronze cents, and no one noticed the L! Or, perhaps there is some other explanation. Today in the hobby more careful scrutiny is being given to varieties than any time before, and along with this an ever-increasing number of people are paying attention to Mint history and background. Thus, we expect that many new findings will be made along with old mysteries being solved.

1094 1864 L on ribbon. MS-65 RB (PCGS). A sharply struck gem example with bright orange mint lustre. The reverse is beginning to fade to light bluish brown. A wonderful example for the connoisseur.

1095 Pair of Indian Cents ☆ 1865 Proof-63 RB. Quite scarce ☆ 1879 Proof-63 RB. An interesting lot with pleasing surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

1096 Indian Cent quintette: ☆ 1865 MS-60 BN ☆ 1877 AG-3. Desirable in all grades ☆ 1882 MS-63 RB ☆ 1884 MS-63 BN. Lustrous and attractive ☆ 1907 MS-64 RB. (Total: 5 pieces)



1097 1867 MS-64 RD (PCGS). This is a wonderful specimen of the issue featuring bright orange mint lustre on both obverse and reverse. All design details are extremely bold. Very seldom do the early bronze composition Indian cents come along with bright mint lustre as displayed on the present example. A delightful quality coin which is sure to please even the most fastidious collector.

1098 1868 MS-64 RB (PCGS). A lustrous coin with a high amount of sparkle on its satiny rose and pale violet surfaces. A popular date, the sort old-timers in the hobby call *semi-keys*.

1099 1871 MS-64 BN. Very sharply defined with medium brown and light gold blended together. An attractive example of this popular and scarce issue. This is one of the key issues in the Indian cent series, and seldom is available in Mint State preservation.

Rare 1873 Doubled LIBERTY 1¢



1100 1873 Doubled LIBERTY. Snow-1. AU-55 (PCGS). Medium brown surfaces at the centers and somewhat lighter golden brown toward the rims. Some original mint lustre remains visible in the protected areas. An old, light scratch is noted in the lower right obverse field. A popular variety with LIBERTY boldly doubled. Prominent doubling is also visible on the Indian's eye and profile.

We recall looking for this variety 40 or more years ago, when it had not been listed in the *Guide Book*, the Fly-In Club had not been organized, and very few people were even the slightest bit interested in any Indian cents other than dates and mintmarks and the 1864 With L. Every so often we would happen upon one, describe it in our catalogues, and turn a few dollars in extra profit.

1101 1873 Open 3. MS-64 RB. Mostly satiny tan with red flashes on the obverse, but just the opposite on the reverse. Attractive for the grade.

1102 Pair of Indian Cents: ☆ 1874 MS-63 BN (ANACS) ☆ 1908-S MS-63 RB (ANACS). A desirable pair of certified Indians. (Total: 2 pieces)



1103 1875 MS-65 RB (PCGS). An attractive example of the issue with medium brown and considerable portions of orange mint lustre. This is an aesthetically desirable example of the issue.

This is an intriguing variety, having numerous very heavy raised die lines through the center obverse. These are primarily visible just below the Indian's jaw and ear and extend very shortly from the forehead into the field.



1104 1875 MS-65 RB (NGC). An attractive example with medium brown and orange mint lustre. Very sharply struck and pleasing.

1105 Quartette of Mint State cents: ☆ 1875 MS-63 BN ☆ 1882 MS-63 RB ☆ 1887 MS-65 RB ☆ 1896 MS-65 RB. All are lustrous and attractive. (Total: 4 pieces)

1106 1876 MS-64 RB (PCGS). Mainly red with a hint of iridescent violet and gold on the high points. No shortage of eye appeal here!

Gem Proof 1877 Indian Cent

The Eliasberg Coin



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1107 1877 Proof-66 RB (PCGS).** A spectacular example of this key-date issue with lovely light brown, red, and iridescent blue toning. This is, without question, one of the very finest known specimens. The exact original Proof mintage is not known but it is probably something more than 1,000 and less than 1,500 pieces. The 1877 Indian Head cent has a special place in American numismatics as it is prized in *any* grade. The buyer of this lot will take great pleasure in knowing that he or she has one of the very finest known examples of this 19th-century classic. And, this piece has a quintessence that cannot be duplicated: it is from the only complete cabinet of United States coins ever formed, the Eliasberg Collection.

From our sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., Collection, May 1996, Lot 628.

Another Gem Proof 1877 1¢

Splendid Quality!



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1108 1877 Proof-65 RB (NGC).** Splashes of original mint lustre are found in the recesses. For generations, collectors have hoped to own a top-quality 1877—and this gem Proof can fit the bill nicely. A second important opportunity to acquire a specimen of this immensely popular date. What a joy this coin is to behold, and what a joy it will be for *you* to own. There is something *special* about an 1877 cent at any grade level, and in high Proof preservation the issue is all the more important.

Beautiful Mint State 1877 Cent



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1109 1877 MS-65 RB (NGC).** Boldly struck with impeccable surfaces. This rare and beautiful example will be the centerpiece of an advanced collection of business-strike Indian cents. Not often do we have the opportunity to present a gem Uncirculated coin.
- 1110** 1877 Net VG-8; sharpness of VF-30 with moderate porosity and localized corrosion on the reverse. In addition, considerable erosion is noted on the edge. The obverse has a respectable appearance and would look nice mounted in an album.
- 1111 Quartette of Proof Indian cents, each graded by PCGS:** ☆ 1878 Proof-64 RB. Reflective Proof surfaces ☆ 1888 Proof-64 BN. Pleasing light brown surfaces with traces of red ☆ 1893 Proof-63 RB. Toned russet and deep blue ☆ 1895 Proof-63 RB. Bright and reflective with fiery orange-red surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1112** Pair of quality Proof Indian Cents: ☆ 1880 Proof-63. Full mint red. A few flecks in the fields preclude a higher grade ☆ 1883 Proof-64 RB. Attractive, delicate toning. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1113 1881 MS-66 RD.** Brilliant red with fiery lustre. A sharply struck and beautiful example certain to please the discriminating collector.
- 1114 Quality Indian cent trio:** ☆ 1881 MS-65 RB (NGC) ☆ 1892 MS-65 RD (ANACS) ☆ 1900 MS-65 RD (NGC). A desirable group of gem quality. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1115 Pair of Hallmark-certified Indian cents:** ☆ 1882 Proof-64 RD. A tiny planchet defect is noted in the field between the nose and the D of UNITED. Pleasing overall appearance ☆ 1891 Proof-63 RB. The obverse is toned in red and blue-green tones, while the reverse is almost fully brilliant. A quality pair. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1116 1884 Proof-66 RB (PCGS).** An attractive cameo Proof with sharp design details and golden olive lustre on the obverse. The reverse displays deep rose, lilac, and blue toning. A highly attractive example for the date or type collector.
- 1117 1884 MS-65 RB (PCGS).** Bright frosty mint lustre is beginning to fade to light brown and rose. A small area of dark brown toning is visible in the feathers below MER.
- 1118 1884 MS-65 RB.** A sharply struck example with satiny orange lustre fading to lilac-brown. All design details are sharp and the surfaces are virtually flawless with only a few very minor spots scattered here and there.



- 1119 1886 Type I. MS-66 RD (NGC).** A superb example of the Type I design from the old Indian Head hub which saw its final use this year. Virtually full orange lustre beginning to fade to light brown on the highest points. Traces of bluish overtones are noted. Although this is the more common of two varieties, all 1886-dated Indian cents are scarce, if not rare, in gem Mint State preservation.

- 1120 Proof trio of cents:** ☆ 1888 Proof-65 RB. Mostly red with splashes of iridescent blue on both surfaces ☆ 1889 Proof-64 BN. Greenish gray and blue toning ☆ 1893 Proof-63 BN. Deep lavender and blue green iridescence over both surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Gem Proof 1890 Indian Cent



- 1121 1890 Proof-65 RD (NGC).** Sharply struck with bright orange mirrored fields. A few very minor spots are visible with magnification. This very attractive Proof Indian cent should command considerable bidder attention. This is one of the scarcer years in full original red quality.

- 1122 Trio of Proof-64 RD cents:** ☆ 1892. Reflective ☆ 1902. Reflective with a few minor spots noted on both surfaces ☆ 1903. Splashes of pale blue toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1123 Mint State Indian cents:** ☆ 1895 MS-60 RB ☆ 1896 MS-63 BN ☆ 1898 MS-63 BN ☆ 1900 MS-63 RB ☆ 1901 MS-64 RD ☆ 1902 MS-64 RB ☆ 1904 MS-63 RD ☆ 1905 MS-63 RB ☆ 1906 MS-63 RD ☆ 1907 MS-62 RB ☆ 1909 MS-64 RB. (Total: 11 pieces)

- 1124 1899 MS-66 RD (NGC).** A superb example with intense deep orange lustre and traces of faint greenish toning. Most design details are quite sharp, however, the tips of the Indian's feathers are weak. A lovely example for the type collector.

- 1125 1899 MS-66 RD (NGC).** Similar to the preceding with bright orange mint lustre. Slightly finer striking quality, with most feather details visible on the obverse. The surfaces are virtually pristine, making this an ideal choice for the date collector.

- 1126 A trio of late-date gem Indian cents:** ☆ 1899 MS-65 RD (PCGS) ☆ 1907 MS-65 RD (PCGS) ☆ 1909 MS-65 RD (PCGS). An attractive and valuable group. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1127 1902 MS-66 RD (NGC).** Bright and fiery orange-red surfaces. Visible signs of die erosion contribute to the radiant lustre. A beautiful high-grade example certain to please.

- 1128 Grouping of Mint State Indian Head cents:** ☆ 1902 (3). MS-65 RB; MS-64 RD, dipped; and MS-64 RB ☆ 1906 MS-65 RB ☆ 1907 MS-65 RB ☆ 1908 MS-65 RB ☆ 1909 (3). MS-65 RB (2) and MS-64 RB. All have lustrous surfaces. (Total: 9 pieces)

- 1129 Three high-quality Indian cents** ☆ 1904 MS-64 RD (ANACS) ☆ 1905 MS-64 RD (Hallmark) ☆ 1908 MS-64 RD (PCGS). (Total: 3 pieces)



- 1130 1908-S MS-66 RB (PCGS).** An absolutely wonderful specimen with rich soft brown toning and original mint lustre. It is hard to imagine a piece superior to this in quality. Again we are confronted with the opportunity to acquire an *Eliasberg Collection coin*, which certainly adds an aura to whatever this coin may have in its own right, as the foundation quality is considerable.
From our sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., Collection, May 1996.

- 1131 1909-S Indian. MS-63 BN.** A lustrous example with medium brown and streaks of light gold lustre. This is the final Indian cent issue, produced just prior to the new Lincoln design.

Gem 1909-S V.D.B. 1¢



- 1132 1909-S V.D.B. MS-65 RD (PCGS).** A delightful example of this extremely popular issue. Light golden orange with sharp design details and a few very minor toning splashes. This issue is arguably one of the most popular coin issues in all of American numismatics.

The designer's initials V.D.B. appear at the bottom of the reverse. After public outrage at such a prominent feature, future coinage issues were produced without Victor David Brenner's initials appearing on the coin. Just 10 years later, in 1918, Mr. Brenner's initials were again added to the design, appearing on the shoulder truncation in a very inconspicuous position.

Another Gem 1909-S V.D.B.



- 1133 1909-S V.D.B. MS-65 RD (PCGS).** Highly lustrous gem specimen of the most famous of all small cent rarities. Quality such as this is increasingly difficult to locate.

Numismatic heaven for a rare coin dealer would be to purchase a dozen, or better yet, 50, or better yet, 100 of such pieces. Unfortunately, they are usually found one at a time, and not often. How lucky we are that the present sale has multiples.

A Further 1909-S V.D.B. Cent



- 1134 1909-S V.D.B. MS-65 RD.** Frosty red lustre on satiny surfaces. A perennial favorite with collectors. A few tiny obverse flecks are apparent, but the overall appeal is substantial.

- 1135 1909-S V.D.B. Net VF-35; sharpness of AU-50, cleaned. Still a very presentable appearance for this very popular variety.
- 1136 1909-S Lincoln. S over horizontal S. MS-65 RD. Superb light golden orange lustre with virtually flawless surfaces. A few very faint streaks of dark toning are noted on the reverse. All design details are quite bold. This is a lovely example of the first year of the Lincoln cent design. This example is from a blundered obverse die with the mintmark initially entered horizontally and then corrected before coins were struck.
- 1137 Roll of 1910 Lincoln cents. Clearly not an original roll, but pleasing none the less. A few pieces show some light spotting, otherwise the coins average MS-60 BN to MS-63 RB. (Total: 50 pieces)
- 1138 Early Lincoln cent group: ☆ 1910-S MS-64 RD ☆ 1913-D AU-50 ☆ 1915-D MS-60 ☆ 1919-S MS-63 RB ☆ 1921-S AU-58 ☆ 1923 MS-64 RB ☆ 1928-S MS-63 RB ☆ 1931-S MS-63 RB. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 1139 Quartette of branch mint cents: ☆ 1910-S (2). MS-64 RB and MS-60 BN. Both display mottled toning ☆ 1931-D MS-64 RB (2). One displays iridescent toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1140 1919-S MS-64 BN (PCGS). Lustrous dark brown with very faint traces of blue. A most attractive example of this issue. This is a desirable candidate for the specialist as it is not only Mint State, but also quite sharply struck.



- 1141 1922 No D. EF-45 (PCGS). Attractive dark brown with a few minor handling marks, as expected at this grade level. This is a very pleasing example of die pair 2, featuring a weak obverse and strong reverse. This is the only one of three die pairs that is now recognized as a true "No D" issue. Die pairs 1 and 3, both with stronger obverse and weak reverse, are considered "Partial D" varieties. Always look for the strong reverse, as offered here, when paying a significant amount of money for one of these coins.
- 1142 1931-S MS-66 RD (PCGS). This coin was instrumental in touching off the great coin boom of the 1930s. Once it became public knowledge that only 866,000 cents had been struck at San Francisco, the race was on and thousands of people were looking through their change for one of these "rarities." High-grade examples such as this are in demand.
- 1143 1931-S MS-66 RD (PCGS). A second opportunity to acquire a specimen of this date. A fully lustrous example that is sure to please the most particular collector.
- 1144 1931-S MS-66 RD (NGC). A final opportunity to acquire a marvelous gem example.
- 1145 Quartette of cents grading Proof-66 RD (PCGS): ☆ 1938 ☆ 1939 ☆ 1940 ☆ 1942. Each is brilliant and reflective. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1146 Grouping of Proof-66 RD certified cents: ☆ 1938 (PCGS) ☆ 1939 (PCGS) (2) ☆ 1940 (PCGS) ☆ 1942 (NGC). Lightly frosted reverse. All are brilliant and reflective, except where noted. (Total: 5 pieces)

High-Grade 1955 Doubled Die 1¢



- 1147 1955 Doubled Die obverse. MS-65 BN (PCGS). Attractive chocolate brown surfaces with hints of mint lustre in some of the recesses. A few areas of darker brown are noted on the reverse. This immensely popular variety is well known in numismatic circles, but even some non-collectors have a degree of awareness.

The story of this coin was given at some length in Dave Bowers' first book, *Coins and Collectors*, published in 1964. In brief, about 24,000 pieces reached circulation, after which they appeared here and there, particularly in Massachusetts and New York, much to the delight and surprise of numismatists. However, at the time there was not much numismatic interest in unusual die varieties (this would await later publicity by Frank Spadone and, more recently, by Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton, plus many others). Thus, when James F. Ruddy began buying them in Johnson City, New York, where many had been released, he offered 25 cents each. After a time he had acquired a few dozen, and faced with no market for them at all—except that he personally found them interesting—he stopped buying! Of course, this makes "fun" reading today in 1999.

Flashy Red 1955 Doubled Die Obverse 1¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1148 1955 Doubled Die obverse. MS-64 RD (PCGS). Flashy mint red on satiny surfaces. A small ephemeral band of pale violet iridescence crosses Lincoln's forehead, with a scattering of tiny dots of the same nature seen above the date. The reverse is completely red and adds immeasurably to the overall appeal. One of America's favorite small cent issues in an outstanding grade and color combination.
- 1149 1972 Doubled Die obverse. MS-66 RD (PCGS). A very popular variety that is quite scarce in this lofty state of preservation. A gem example of this modern variety.
- 1150 1972 Doubled Die obverse. MS-65 RD (PCGS). Full mint red with sharp details. The doubled die feature is readily visible.
- 1151 1972 Doubled Die obverse. MS-65 RB. A pleasing example of this variety with dark reddish orange lustre beneath deep brown and lilac toning. This is a popular variety with very sharp doubling of the date and all letters in LIBERTY and IN GOD WE TRUST.
- 1152 Pair of NGC-certified cents: ☆ 1983 Doubled Die reverse. MS-65 RD ☆ 1984 Doubled Die obverse. MS-66 RD. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

TWO-CENT PIECES

- 1153** 1864 Large Motto. MS-65 RD (PCGS). Bright orange mint lustre with an obverse toning spot at 1:00; otherwise, the surfaces are pristine. An attractive coin for the date or type collector. The obverse has several small rim breaks from 12:00 to 3:00. The reverse has a thin die crack through ES OF A.

This variety does not appear to be listed in Frank Leone's *Longacre's Two-Cent Piece, 1864 Attribution Guide*.

- 1154** Quartette of two-cent pieces grading MS-63: ☆ 1864 Large Motto. Red. Weakly struck at motto. Spotting noted on both surfaces ☆ 1865 (3). Each displays medium brown surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)



- 1155** 1865 Proof-66 BN (NGC). A lovely Proof example with moderate cameo contrast; the devices are lightly frosted and the fields displaying moderate reflectivity. Primarily medium brown as suggested by the assigned grade, however, original red is noted among the various devices on both obverse and reverse. This is perhaps as close to *red and brown* as one could hope for yet still be considered a "brown" coin overall.

It is our belief that high-quality Proof two-cent pieces are much scarcer than generally realized, and are very reasonably priced on the present market in relation to the demand for them. To buy such coins requires a degree of expertise, as not even a rocket scientist can necessarily figure out the different price levels among coins described as red, red and brown, and brown. For example, is a Proof-66 BN (as here offered) more or less desirable than a Proof-64 RD or a Proof-65 RB? However, this is not an unfortunate situation, for it stimulates thinking, and with some investigation it is found that while "colors" on coins are interesting, among certified pieces they do not necessarily have anything to do with *quality*. Thus, it could be readily be that this Proof-66 BN is of a better *quality* than a Proof-66 RD, if the Proof-66 RD has blotches on it. In summation, it is always best to "buy the coin, not the holder."

- 1156** 1865 MS-65 RB (PCGS). Quite sharply struck, in fact, nearly fully struck with attractive medium brown surfaces and considerable underlying gold lustre.

Two-cent pieces of 1864 and 1865 are readily available in Mint State grades and thus offer the opportunity to acquire examples for reasonable prices.

- 1157** Pair of NGC-certified two-cent pieces: ☆ 1865 MS-64 RD. Lustrous with some spotting on both surfaces ☆ 1871 MS-64 BN. Rich brown surfaces with some mint red visible at the devices. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1158** 1866 MS-66 BN (NGC). A superb gem two-cent piece with satiny brown lustre and considerable original red. All design details are sharply defined and the overall aesthetic appeal is quite high. This example might best be described as borderline red and brown.

- 1159** 1868 MS-65 RB (NGC). An attractive gem with sharp design details. The upper third of the obverse is bright orange with the remaining surfaces, both obverse and reverse, much deeper orange. The devices are toned bluish brown. A very pleasing example of this issue, which is much scarcer than the common 1864 or 1865-dated issues.

- 1160** 1870 Proof-64 RB (NGC). A desirable issue with light gold Proof lustre accented by faint teal. Light cameo contrast is noted with the contrast between fields and devices moderate in appearance.

- 1161** 1871 Proof-64 RB (PCGS). An attractive Proof example with nearly full mint lustre on the obverse, within the context of a mirrored finish proof. The reverse is light to medium tan with traces of mint orange. The motto is doubled, especially the word TRUST, a characteristic of all Proof examples of this issue.

NICKEL THREE-CENT PIECES

We offer a very nice selection of nickel three-cent pieces, emphasizing high-quality Mint State coins and, in particular, choice and gem Proofs, the latter toward the end of the series. Low mintages begin with the year 1877, as at that time the coins became redundant, due to the flood of long-stored Liberty Seated silver coins that was turned loose by the Treasury Department (beginning in a small way in 1873, but mounting to a crescendo after April 20, 1876). Thus, later mintages are very small, save for the year 1881 (for which we probably have an explanation somewhere in our archives—we'll have to check it sometime).

Today, the low-mintage Proofs of the years 1877-1889 are very popular with numismatists, as, indeed, they have been for a long time. We recall a client in the 1950s who took a fancy to these coins, had us buy quite a few for him—possibly a couple hundred in all—and then had us sell them, doubling or tripling his money a few years later. Among the coins on the pages to follow are many high quality pieces that will attract attention.

- 1162** 1865 MS-65. A highly lustrous and sharply struck example of this first issue of the new nickel three-cent denomination. Slight weakness is noted on the III on the reverse, a typical point of weakness on all Mint State examples of the denomination. Streaks of gold toning are visible over ivory nickel surfaces.

This marks the advent of the nickel three-cent denomination. At the time, silver three-cent pieces were not being released at par by the Treasury Department as they were worth more in meltdown value than their equivalent value in paper currency. No such problems attended the nickel three-cent piece, and such coins circulated freely.

- 1163** Trio of MS-64 nickel three-cent pieces: ☆ 1865 (2). One sharply struck with strong detail, one with heavy die clashing and weak striking at the lower portion of the obverse and upper reverse. Both pieces are lustrous with some minor spotting noted ☆ 1884. Lustrous with pale golden gray surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1164** Trio of nickel three-cent pieces: ☆ 1866 MS-63. Lustrous with mottled golden gray toning ☆ 1867 MS-63. Satiny surfaces with spots noted on the obverse ☆ 1873 Closed 3. MS-64. Just a whisper of golden orange toning mostly at the peripheries, some minor spotting is visible on the obverse. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1165** Pair of Proof-64 nickel three-cent pieces: ☆ 1868. Reflective with a splashes of pale gold toning at the top portion of the obverse ☆ 1871. Reflective with a few obverse spots visible. (Total: 2 pieces)



- 1166 1869 Proof-65 (NGC).** An aesthetically pleasing example of this issue with every design detail sharply rendered. Moderate cameo contrast is visible with splashes of gold toning over light gray surfaces. Traces of iridescent pink and teal add to the overall appearance.
- 1167 1869 Proof-64.** A lovely cameo Proof example of this issue, with extremely sharp design details and deeply brilliant mirrored fields. Bright nickel surfaces without toning.
- 1168 Proof-64 duo of nickel three-cent pieces:** ☆ 1869. Iridescent gold at the peripheries with pale blue on the central devices ☆ 1876. Pale golden toning over reflective surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1169 1872 Proof-65.** Bright nickel gray surfaces with sharp design details and moderate cameo contrast. The fields are moderately reflective, however, this is still nicer than often seen. Many Proof examples from the 1870s are dull and quite carelessly made.
- 1170 Pair of Proof-63 nickel three-cent pieces:** ☆ 1873 Closed 3. Lovely pearl gray toning over both surfaces ☆ 1880. Pale golden gray toning with some spots visible on both surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1171 1874 Proof-65.** A very pleasing light gray Proof with moderately reflective surfaces and sharply defined details. At first glance, this lovely nickel three-cent piece resembles a business strike, however, the fields are lightly reflective and the sharpness of design substantiates our opinion that this was struck as a Proof.

Gem Proof 1877 Rarity

Proof-Only Issue



- 1172 1877 Proof-65 (NGC).** Bright silvery gray surfaces with slight traces of soft gray toning. Some surface irregularity is noted on the reverse between the left side of the wreath and the rim. This is likely due to some debris on the die, and is as struck. A Proof-only issue, popularly assigned a mintage figure of 510, although the truer figure is probably closer to 1,250. No matter, only Proofs were made, with no related business strikes, and the 1877 has always been the key date in the series. It is a pleasure to offer a nice one such as presented here.

Gem Proof 1877 3¢



- 1173 1877 Proof-65 (NGC).** Bright Proof fields with satiny devices. Pleasing olive-gold striated toning on each side. Another splendid example of the key issue in the series.

- 1174 1878 Proof-65.** A lovely gem Proof example of this popular issue. Light golden rose and teal toning provides a very pleasing aesthetic appearance. Struck only in Proof format, this example is unquestionably a Proof even at first glance. Many of these Proof-only issues have lustrous, frosty surfaces and resemble business strikes.

As a date, the 1878 is the second rarest three-cent piece in the series. A number of years ago well-known dealer Abe Kosoff attempted to hoard a few pieces, not seriously, but casually. When his family consigned his inventory and other estate coins to us we presented them at auction in a memorable sale.

- 1175 1878 Proof-64.** A lovely, brilliant Proof example with strong cameo contrast between fields and devices. All design elements are very sharply struck. A very attractive example, one with reflective Proof surfaces rather than the usual business strike aspect.
- 1176 1879 Proof-66 (NGC).** Bright and attractive with mostly brilliant silvery surfaces. Light wisps of lavender toning are visible on the reverse.

High-Grade Proof Nickel 3¢ Pieces

- 1177 Selection of nickel three-cent pieces, each graded Proof-66 (NGC):** ☆ 1879. Light obverse spotting ☆ 1881. Deep smoky toning ☆ 1882. Silvery gray striations ☆ 1883. Light russet blushes ☆ 1884. Light russet blushes ☆ 1888. Soft gray. A high-grade sextette. (Total: 6 pieces)

- 1178 1879 Proof-65.** A boldly struck Proof example of this issue with light nickel gray surfaces and moderate cameo contrast. An attractive example for the date or type collector. This issue begins the late era of the nickel three-cent piece which continues through the end of the series in 1889, an era in which Mint State business strikes are quite rare (except for 1881) and Proofs are relatively common.

- 1179 1880 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Bright, satiny, and well struck. A brilliant example, attractive in every respect.

- 1180 1880 Proof-66 (PCGS).** A brilliant gem Proof. Sharply struck and frosty. Some microscopic obverse spotting is noted near the date.

Quality Quintette of Nickel 3¢ Pieces

- 1181 Quintette of Proof nickel three-cent pieces. Each graded Proof-66 (PCGS):** ☆ 1880 ☆ 1882 ☆ 1884 ☆ 1886. Light champagne toning ☆ 1889. Traces of pale blue and gold. Mostly brilliant except where otherwise noted. A well-matched and attractive group of different dates. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1182 1881 Proof-66 (PCGS).** A satiny gem Proof with flashy and reflective fields. Some light toning striations are noted under low magnification. A beautiful example.

- 1183 1881 Proof-66 (NGC).** Soft gray toning over reflective Proof surfaces. The devices are sharp and frosty. Splashes of faint russet are noted, as are some trivial spots on the reverse.



1184 1882 Proof-67 (PCGS). A superb gem Proof in every respect. The details are fully defined and heavily frosted. The fields exhibit some reflectivity. Warm champagne toning highlights each side. Outstanding aesthetic appeal.

1185 1882 Proof-66 (PCGS). A primarily brilliant gem Proof with only faint traces of golden brown toning on the devices. The fields remain bright and reflective. A small lintmark, as struck, is noted between the second A of AMERICA and the rim. One of just 3,100 Proofs struck.

1186 1882 Proof-66 (PCGS). Frosty devices against smooth Proof fields. Flecks of golden brown toning are noted. Bright and pleasing.

Proof Nickel 3¢ Quartette

1187 Four different nickel three-cent pieces, each certified Proof-66: ☆ 1882 (PCGS) ☆ 1883 (NGC) ☆ 1886 (PCGS) ☆ 1889 (PCGS). Each mostly brilliant but with light striated toning. Well matched and pleasing. (Total: 4 pieces)

Delightful Proof Nickel 3¢ Pieces

1188 Selection of Proof nickel three-cent pieces. Each graded Proof-66 (NGC): ☆ 1882. Mottled gold and pale blue ☆ 1883. Soft champagne blush ☆ 1884. Frosty and bright ☆ 1886. Brilliant ☆ 1888. Light gray striations. A lovely, high-grade grouping. (Total: 5 pieces)

1189 Quartette of Proof nickel three-cent pieces: ☆ 1882 Proof-62. Reflective with pale blue and gold highlights ☆ 1888 Proof-63 (2). Golden gray toning with some spotting ☆ 1889 Proof-63. Mixture of pale bluish gray and gold toning over both surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)



1190 1883 Proof-67 (NGC). Reflective Proof fields on both sides accent the sharp satiny devices. Blushes of pale gold toning are noted.

1191 1883 Proof-66 (PCGS). Highly reflective Proof surfaces with bold frosty devices. An aesthetic delight boasting outstanding eye appeal. Golden brown toning highlights the obverse, while the reverse has a wisp of pale russet.

1192 Nickel three-cent pair grading Proof-64: ☆ 1883. Pale blue and gold toning over reflective surfaces ☆ 1887/6 Overdate. Silver gray toning with golden highlights; some spotting is noted. (Total: 2 pieces)

1193 1884 Proof-67 (NGC). Mottled olive and champagne toning graces the obverse. The reverse is nearly brilliant. Both sides are sharp and frosty. A lovely gem.

1194 1884 Proof-66 (PCGS). An outstanding gem Proof with bold satiny surfaces. Nearly full brilliance with just a faint wisp of golden brown at the central reverse. Excellent quality for the assigned grade.

1195 1884 Proof-66 (NGC). Bright and reflective Proof fields highlight the satiny devices. Just a tinge of champagne toning from full brilliance. Close examination reveals evidence of die clashing, somewhat uncommon on Proof issues.

1196 Pair of Proof-64 nickel three-cent pieces: ☆ 1884. Reflective with lovely golden iridescent highlights ☆ 1889. Soft bluish gray toning with a splash of gold at the obverse center. (Total: 2 pieces)

1197 1885 Proof-66 (PCGS). Pale steel gray toning across the satiny surfaces. Some light spotting is evident under low magnification.

1198 1886 Proof-66 (PCGS). Satiny gem Proof surfaces. Brilliant and beautiful. A Proof-only issue with a mintage of only 4,290 pieces.

How marvelous it is that a superb gem example of this Proof-only date can be purchased for a relatively modest sum—the current market value being, say, \$600 or so. Such pieces are basically scarce, in our opinion, and have an excellent foundational value.

1199 1886 Proof-66 (PCGS). Another brilliant and frosty superb gem example.

1200 1886 Proof-66 (NGC). Bright and reflective Proof surfaces with nearly full brilliance. Two microscopic spots are noted on the obverse. Thus, although the investor or non-studied buyer will no doubt value this piece just as highly as the preceding two lots, in actuality it is worth a bit less, in our opinion.

1201 1888 Proof-66 (PCGS). An aesthetic delight. Sharply struck and bright with pleasing light steel gray toning across the surfaces.

1202 1889 Proof-66 (PCGS). A lovely gem Proof with bright, brilliant surfaces. Bold and glistening. The final year of issue for the three-cent denomination.

1203 1889 Proof-66 (PCGS). Pleasing steel gray. Attractive satiny surfaces on each side.

Two short die breaks are noted on the reverse from the rim to the wreath.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECES

- 1204** Quartette of MS-60 silver three-cent pieces: ☆ 1851 (3). One is mostly brilliant with splashes of grayish brown and golden toning at the rims. Two display soft pearl gray toning over both surfaces ☆ 1860. Lustrous with golden brown and blue toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1205** 1851-O MS-63 (PCGS). This is a very attractive example of the only New Orleans Mint issue for the denomination. Highly lustrous with medium gold toning on the obverse, lighter gold on the reverse. Faint traces of iridescence improve the overall aesthetic appeal. This issue is always in demand as it combines the first year of the denomination with the only issue from a branch mint.
- 1206** Trio of silver three-cent pieces: ☆ 1855 AU-55. Lustrous golden gray toning with heavy die clashing visible on both surfaces ☆ 1860 Proof-62. Brilliant and reflective ☆ 1862/1 Overdate. AU-50. Steel gray obverse with golden highlights on the obverse; the reverse displays golden brown toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

Delightful Gem 1857 3¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1207** 1857 MS-65 (PCGS). A satiny and lustrous example. Pleasing soft champagne at the centers changing to rings of natural rainbow toning at the rims. Sharply struck with bold central details, though some weakness appears on the lower edge of the lower left star point. A beautiful and original gem specimen.

Silver three-cent pieces were produced in three design types, the Type II, as offered here, being struck from 1854 through 1858 inclusive. The design was such that the elements did not strike up properly, and just about every issue within this range is found with weakness in some area or another (if there are exceptions, they are apt to be dated 1855). The present coin is much nicer than usually seen.

- 1208** 1871 Proof-64 (PCGS). A brilliant Proof with deeply reflective fields and strong cameo contrast. Very nice quality for the grade.

All silver three-cent pieces dated after 1862 (when the Treasury stopped paying out silver coins at par) are scarce, and as the years progressed, they become increasingly so.

NICKEL FIVE-CENT PIECES

Welcome to a particularly attractive selection of nickel five-cent pieces, including several interesting Shield varieties, but, in particular, one of the most outstanding offerings of high-quality Liberty Head nickels ever to appear in one of our sales. These coins were gathered years ago by a southern gentleman, a very fine man who did a lot of picking and choosing in an era (the 1950s) when there was no certification, and grading standards and interpretations were apt to vary widely. He was

a true connoisseur, and today bidders reading these words are the beneficiaries. Our offering of Liberty Head nickels commences with Lot 1215.

- 1209** 1873 Closed 3. Proof-65. A very pleasing Proof Shield nickel. All Proof five-cent pieces of this date are of the Closed 3 obverse style. This obverse die was rather heavily polished to provide for Proof strikings, with portions of the small feather left of the shield missing.
- 1210** Trio of Shield nickels grading MS-64: ☆ 1873 Open 3. A mixture of pale reddish orange, blue, and magenta iridescence ☆ 1883 (2). Both display golden gray toning. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 1211** 1878 Proof-66 (NGC). Well struck with bold definition of the central details. Bright and reflective Proof fields with highlights of soft gold and lavender toning.

The 1878 is a famous Proof-only issue, struck only in this format, with no pieces made for circulation. Only 2,350 were made, of which, perhaps, 1,500 remain today—just an estimate. Considering the entire series of nickel five-cent pieces from the first year of issue, 1866, down to the present day, the rarities are, in order, the 1913 Liberty Head (five believed to have been struck, four accounted for today), the 1877 (about 1,250 struck, all Proofs), and the 1878 as here offered. Beyond this trio, there is a big jump before the next scarcest date is encountered, with no clear candidate in this regard—although such dates and varieties as 1879, 1880, 1882, and 1912-S are candidates—but *thousands* exist of each of these.

- 1212** 1879/8 Overdate. Proof-65. Highly lustrous with light gold toning, this gem Proof resembles a business strike in overall appearance. All design elements are extremely sharp and the rim and edge are quite bold. These are characteristics normally associated with Proof strikings. Furthermore, all examples from this obverse die with the overdate feature are Proofs. This is one of few overdates struck in Proof format.

Although no count has been kept, it seems that about one in three 1879 Proof Shield nickels are of the overdate style.

- 1213** 1880 Shield. Proof-66 (PCGS). Satiny silver gray surfaces on each side. The devices are frosty and sharply defined while the fields are bright. An attractive Shield nickel in a first-generation PCGS holder.

The date 1880 is highly prized, right along with 1879 and 1881, due to a relatively low mintage of *business strikes*. However, enough Proofs were made that examples are readily available.

- 1214** 1883 Shield. Proof-65. A pleasing Proof example with brilliant nickel gray surfaces. All design details are sharp and moderate cameo contrast is present. This is the very final year of the Shield design, produced in the early months. Later in the year, the Liberty Head design was issued.

As a point of inquiry, Mark Borckardt asked your editor the other day why the mintage of Proof 1883 *Shield* nickels was so high, the recorded figure being 5,419. We didn't know, although the related high mintage of the 1883 *Liberty Head* can be explained easily enough, as the 1883 Liberty Head without CENTS (of which 5,219 Proofs were made) as it was a sensation in the popular press. However, not as easily explained is the following mintage, the 1883 Liberty Head nickel with CENTS, which checks in at 6,783 Proofs. Thus, for the year 1883 we have the lowest recorded mintage (even though it is fairly high in comparison to other nickels in the entire series) of the year 1883 being the most popular variety, the without CENTS. Did the Mint force people who were attracted to the 1883 Liberty Head nickel without CENTS to buy the other two nickel Proofs as well? Or, is there some other explanation? If someone has a logical idea or even a good guess, we will follow it up in a future issue of the *Rare Coin Review*.



- 1215 1883 Liberty. No CENTS. Proof-66.** A superb cameo Proof with light gold toning. All design details are extremely bold with considerable cameo contrast. This variety, without the word CENTS on the reverse, was the very first Liberty Head nickel issue. It was soon decided that the addition of the word CENTS was a necessary part of the design.

The present lot marks the beginning of a wonderful collection of Liberty and Buffalo nickels consigned to us by a gentleman from the South. These are from an old-time collection which was formed with great care. In addition, a few similar coins from other sources are included.



- 1216 1883 No CENTS. Proof-65 (NGC).** Reflective mirror fields around sharp frosty devices. Attractive though some small corrosion spots are noted on the reverse.

- 1217 Pair of Proof Liberty nickels, both Proof-64:** ☆ 1883 No CENTS. Golden orange highlights with a small toning spot at the point of Liberty's bust ☆ 1884. Splashes of reddish brown toning over reflective surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1218 Quartette of certified Liberty and Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1883 No CENTS. MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous with just a hint of gold ☆ 1913 Buffalo. Type I. MS-66 (PCGS). Pale magenta toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1936-D MS-65 (NGC). Iridescent gold and magenta toning ☆ 1938-D MS-67 (NGC). Bright golden iridescence with splashes of pale blue. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1219 Mint State Liberty nickel group:** ☆ 1883 No CENTS. MS-65 ☆ 1883 With CENTS. MS-64 ☆ 1899 MS-60 ☆ 1904 MS-63 ☆ 1906 MS-62 ☆ 1910 MS-62 ☆ 1911 MS-62 ☆ 1912 MS-60. Most are brilliant, a few are attractively toned. (Total: 8 pieces)

- 1220 1883 With CENTS. Proof-66 (NGC).** Reflective fields and frosty devices. Soft gray and sea green toning on each side. One small spot is noted just to the right of the date.

- 1221 1883 With CENTS. Proof-66 (NGC).** Satiny devices and reflective Proof fields. Some planchet roughness is noted at the obverse rim, as made. Blushes of russet toning.

- 1222 1883 With CENTS. Proof-65.** A superb brilliant Proof with bright gray nickel surfaces. Sharply struck with delightful cameo contrast. In his *Encyclopedia of Proof Coins*, Walter Breen notes a mintage figure of 6,783 coins. This mintage figure may be suspect as the delivery dates for the various varieties of nickel five-cent pieces for this year seem to overlap.

More on Proof 1883 nickels (an expansion of our comments found under Lot 1214):

Walter Breen reported delivery figures by date for Proof 1883 Shield nickels with these figures having researcher R.W. Julian as the source. On March 31, 1883 a reported 3,919 Shield nickels and 3,519 Liberty Head nickels (without CENTS) were reported. The next delivery is dated June 26, with 1,500 Shield nickels, 1,700 Liberty Head nickels without CENTS, and 2,850 Liberty Head nickels with CENTS. Further deliveries were dated October 11, 1883 with 1,000 pieces and December 31, 1883 with 2,933 pieces, these last two all the Liberty Head with CENTS variety. The total of these figures is substantially greater than Proof mintages of nickel five-cent pieces in adja-

cent years. 3,575 Proof nickels were reported for 1881, 3,100 for 1882, 17,421 for 1883, 3,942 in 1884, and 3,790 in 1885.

The number of coins listed in the PCGS *Population Report* seems to substantiate that, indeed, large numbers of Proofs were struck of these three varieties—and that the figures reported may well be correct, thus reasonably eliminating the possibility of accounting errors for the high numbers.

- 1223 Nickel five cents trio, all MS-64:** ☆ 1883 Liberty. With CENTS ☆ 1921 ☆ 1928-D. Each is lustrous and each is lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1224 1884 Proof-66.** A superb cameo Proof with very faint gold toning, most evident on the bust of Liberty. A very minor planchet imperfection is noted on the reverse, approximately centered over the large V.

In the date, the 1 is sharply double punched, a variety which Walter Breen considered rare.

- 1225 Selection of Liberty nickels, all MS-63:** ☆ 1884 ☆ 1894 ☆ 1899 ☆ 1903 ☆ 1911. All display light toning. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1226 A half dozen Uncirculated Liberty and Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1884 MS-60 ☆ 1900 MS-60 ☆ 1912 MS-63 ☆ 1919 MS-63 ☆ 1926 MS-64 ☆ 1927 MS-63. All exhibit varying degrees of toning. (Total: 6 pieces)

Key 1885 Liberty Head Nickel



- 1227 1885 Proof-66 (NGC).** Golden brown and rose toning on each side. The fields are not deeply mirrored but are bright and reflective. The devices are satiny and sharply defined. Some minor spotting is noted on the obverse near the rim at 8:00. The 1885 is the key issue in this era.

Superb Gem 1885 Nickel



- 1228 1885 Proof-65.** A superb gem Proof example of this very popular date, in substantial demand due to the scarcity of Mint State business strikes. This specimen is sharply struck with bright nickel gray surfaces and considerable cameo contrast. This delightful example, one of the nicest we have ever seen, is sure to bring a very strong price.

- 1229 1885 MS-60.** A sharply struck Mint State business strike example with medium gray surfaces and light gold toning. Quite scarce and considered a key date in business strike format. In Mint State the 1885 Liberty Head nickel is rarer than in Proof format. Only occasionally do we have one to present for sale.

- 1230 1886 Proof-66 (NGC).** Brilliant save for slight traces of gold at the reverse rims. A satiny gem with outstanding aesthetic appeal.

The 1866 is second only to the 1885 in terms of rarity among Liberty Head nickel dates of the era.

- 1231 1886 Proof-66 (NGC).** Rich golden gray toning with a hint of rose on both sides. Another delightful example of this key issue.
- 1232 1886 Proof-65.** A remarkable gem example of this scarce and popular issue, in demand due to the pressures of date collectors having a limited number of business strikes to choose from. Sharply struck with light gray cameo Proof surfaces. A well-produced example, much finer than the majority of Proofs known for this issue.
- 1233 1886 MS-63.** An attractive example of this scarce issue with light gold toning accented by splashes of russet and blue. Quite weak at the lower left portion of the wreath, typical of most Mint State Liberty nickels. Scarcer than an equivalent Proof.
- 1234 Quartette of Proof-64 Liberty nickels:** ☆ 1887 ☆ 1891 ☆ 1898 ☆ 1900. All display faint champagne toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1235 1888 Proof-65 (PCGS).** Satiny lustre and sharp details provide a pleasing aesthetic appearance to this lightly toned gem Proof example. Faint rose and golden toning are evident particularly on the obverse.
- This example is a perfect match for Walter Breen's description of most known Proofs: "Under a microscope the metal is alternately granular and pebbled, taking polish only locally."
- 1236 1888 Proof-65.** A wonderful, brilliant Proof example with sharp design details and deeply mirrored fields, quite unusual for Proof examples of this year. This lovely gem is a wonderful exception to the usual rule of dull or satiny Proofs.
- 1237 1889 Proof-66.** Quite similar in overall appearance to the 1888-dated issue just offered. This is a gem Proof with brilliant mirrored fields and frosted cameo devices. All design details are sharp and the surfaces are fully brilliant without toning.
- 1238 1890 Proof-65.** A brilliant cameo Proof with every design detail sharply defined. A memorable, high-quality example which is sure to please the connoisseur.
- 1239 1891 Proof-66 (NGC).** Iridescent rose and gold toning on highly reflective surfaces. Moderate cameo contrast.
- 1240 1892 Proof-66.** A superb, brilliant gem cameo Proof with light gray fields and frosted devices. Every design detail is bold. Both obverse and reverse surfaces are virtually pristine.
- 1241 1893 Proof-66.** A delightful light gray cameo Proof with a very faint trace of pale gold on the obverse. Deeply mirrored fields surround frosted cameo devices on this gem specimen.
- 1242 1894 Proof-65.** Light gray with faint traces of gold toning. This gem cameo Proof is a delight to behold. The 1894 issue is scarce in business strike format. Therefore, this Proof example should attract considerable demand.
- 1243 1895 Proof-65.** A superb sharply struck gem cameo Proof with bright gray surfaces and considerable contrast. This delightful gem is sure to please any collector.
- 1244 1896 Proof-65.** A wonderful gem Proof with brilliant gray nickel surfaces and sharp design details. Moderately reflective cameo contrast highlights this scarce issue.

Although not certified, a brief review of the PCGS *Population Report* suggests that this is the fourth rarest Liberty Head nickel in Proof-65 or finer quality. Likewise, this date has the second lowest business strike population in the same numeric grade levels.

- 1245 1897 Proof-66 (NGC).** Pale blue and rose iridescence on light golden surfaces. Nice cameo contrast.
- 1246 1897 Proof-66.** An absolutely superb gem Proof with brilliant light gray mirrored surfaces and extremely bold design details. This is one of the very finest of all the Liberty Head nickels offered from this old southern collection.
- 1247 Certified nickel threesome:** ☆ 1897 MS-62 (ANACS) ☆ 1900 Proof-63 (NGC) ☆ 1916-S MS-64 (NGC). Sharply struck. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1248 1899 Proof-66 (NGC).** Strong cartwheel lustre on reflective pale golden surfaces. An attractive gem specimen.
- 1249 1899 Proof-66 (NGC).** Iridescent gold and pale sea green on lustrous surfaces.
- 1250 1899 Proof-66.** Fully brilliant light gray surfaces with extremely bold details. This superb gem example is definitely a *keeper* for your collection.

In our opinion, Proof Liberty Head nickels are quite underpriced in today's market. Values in 1999 are lower than they were a decade ago in 1989! A lot of this has to do with *confusion* regarding grading, as there is an extreme reliance on grading numbers, with very little said about quality. The market is what it is at a given time, and we have no particular quarrel with the vast majority of buyers who simply love certified coins and numbers, but do not consider much else. However, in accordance with Gresham's Law, the large number of unsatisfactory pieces floating around has driven down the value of nice pieces (such as offered here). Today, prices for such coins as Proof-64 upward are very low, but some *effort* is required to find nice ones. Expending this effort will be well repaid at a later date, we believe.

Also complicating the equation is that today it is not possible to display a row of glittering Proofs side by side in a single album page (such as the old style "National" holders made by Raymond) or a fine plastic holder (such as the "Capital" products), as the PCGS, NGC, and other holders are too large. The Certified Coin Estate albums (which we and other dealers offer for sale) are a partial solution, as these permit holders to be arranged in trays. However, the idea of hole filling, as in an old-time album, is not there. Thus, not as many people strive for completion in the market today, 1999, as compared to 20 or 30 years ago when an empty hole in an album would beckon, and demand that its owner get busy in the marketplace!



- 1251 1900 Proof-67 (NGC).** A lovely blend of pale gold, sky blue, and light rose iridescence. Tied for finest graded by NGC.
- NGC Census: 19; none finer.
- 1252 1900 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Reflective steel gray surfaces display a hint of rose iridescence. Modest cameo contrast on both sides.
- 1253 1900 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Lustrous with a touch of pale lavender toning. The surfaces are intermediate between satiny and mirror texture.



- 1254 1901 Proof-67 (NGC).** A lustrous gem with splashes of pale gold on reflective surfaces. Tied for finest certified by NGC.
- NGC Census: 19; none finer.



1255 1901 Proof-67. A phenomenal gem example with very faint gold toning around the obverse border. A pristine medium gray Proof featuring light cameo contrast and incredible Proof lustre.

1256 1901 Proof-66 (NGC). Highly reflective with a pale rose sheen on both sides.

A survey of Proof mintage figures will reveal that production quantities for the 1890s and early 20th century are significantly lower than for the 1880s. Indeed, today coins are scarcer from these later years, reflecting this.

1257 1902 Proof-66 (PCGS). Brilliant with a modicum of cameo contrast present.

1258 Five Proof-64 Liberty nickels: ☆ 1902 ☆ 1904 ☆ 1905 ☆ 1908 ☆ 1912. All are chiefly brilliant with a dusting of pale gold toning. (Total: 5 pieces)

1259 1903 Proof-66. Rotated or inverted reverse. A superb gem-quality example with sharp design details and light gray cameo contrast. One of the very finest we have seen from the rotated reverse. This example shows medallion die alignment with the reverse rotated 180° from the normal position. Examples of this variety appear to be scarcer than those with the normal reverse orientation.

This variety was first identified in the early 1960s by Dave Bowers, who spotted one in the collection of Ambrose Brown, which Empire Coin Company purchased intact. A complete set of Liberty nickels 1883-1912 was mounted in a Raymond "National" holder, and upon turning the holder over, one piece appeared to be upside down in relation to the others. Since that time, relatively few examples have been seen, although we probably have checked, perhaps, as many as 200 Proofs. It is probably correct to say that only a few dozen are known with the inverted reverse. Of course, market demand for them is very low, as most people have no clue that such a variety exists.

1260 Four Proof Liberty nickels: ☆ 1904 Proof-63 ☆ 1908 Proof-64 ☆ 1909 Proof-63 ☆ 1910 Proof-64. Each is delicately toned. (Total: 4 pieces)

1261 1905 Proof-66 (NGC). Pale rose and golden iridescence. Modest cameo contrast on both sides.

1262 1905 MS-65 (PCGS). A lovely example with bright satiny mint lustre. Generally sharp with slight weakness at the lower left wreath. Quite desirable at this grade level.

Phenomenal Proof 1906 Nickel

Only One Finer for the Design



1263 1906 Proof-68 (NGC). This is an incredible gem Proof with russet and faint blue toning. Every detail is extremely sharp with considerable cameo contrast.

A review of the NGC *Census Report* suggests that 21 Liberty Head nickels with CENTS on the reverse have been graded Proof-68 with one 1897-dated coin graded Proof-69. We wonder, however, how many of the Proof-68s have been resubmitted, attempting to be upgraded. We noted, for instance, that seven of the 21 examples graded Proof-68 are dated 1910 and suggest that this figure represents just two or three different coins.

1264 1906 Proof-66 (PCGS). Pale ice blue iridescence graces frosty devices and mirror fields. A pleasing coin overall.

1265 1906 Proof-66 (PCGS). A lovely pale golden specimen with nice cameo contrast.

1266 1906 Proof-65. A lovely Proof example with light gray surfaces and moderate cameo contrast over sharp design details. One of the many gems in this southern collection worthy of careful consideration.

1267 1907 Proof-65. An important offering as this has the lowest Proof mintage of the entire design. An attractive moderate cameo Proof with sharp design details. This lovely coin displays very faint traces of gold toning. An important offering for the specialist, due to the low mintage of just 1,475 coins.

The low mintage represents the smallest quantity of Liberty Head nickel Proofs in the regular series 1883-1912, with only the super rare (four known) 1913 being more elusive.

1268 1908 Proof-66 (NGC). Whispers of pale gold and rose on reflective surfaces. Again we remind prospective bidders of the opportunity presented here to acquire truly beautiful Proof Liberty Head nickels. This offering, long away from the market, presents many pieces of a quality not normally seen.

1269 1909 Proof-66 (PCGS). A hint of pale gold graces satiny devices and reflective fields.

1270 1909 Proof-66 (PCGS). Pale rose iridescence on highly lustrous surfaces. Some cameo contrast is present.

1271 1909 Proof-66 (NGC). A whisper of pale lavender adorns the frosted motifs and mirrored fields.

1909 Proof Nickel Quintette

1272 Quintette of 1909 Liberty Head nickels, each graded Proof-66 (NGC). Each is well struck, frosty, and displays varying degrees of original toning. (Total: 5 pieces)

Proof Liberty Head 5¢ Quartette

1273 Four Liberty nickels, each graded Proof-66 (PCGS): ☆ 1909 (3) ☆ 1910. Each piece displays some degree of attractive toning. (Total: 4 pieces)

1274 1909 Proof-66. A simply superb cameo Proof with extremely heavy lustre on the devices. The fields are moderately deep with splashes of golden brown toning. A delightful gem.

1275 1910 Proof-66 (PCGS). Pale golden surfaces exhibit strong lustre and a splash of rose on both sides.

1276 1910 Proof-66. A lovely gem cameo Proof with deep gold toning on both obverse and reverse. Very sharply struck with considerable aesthetic appeal.



- 1277 1911 Proof-67 (NGC).** Deep silver gray mirrors and frosted devices with splashes of iridescent rose and sky blue on both sides. High cameo contrast. *Tied for finest certified by NGC.*

NGC Census: 15; none finer.

- 1278 1911 Proof-66.** A brilliant gem Proof with light champagne toning. Sharply struck with very significant cameo contrast. Another gem for the connoisseur.

- 1279 1911 Proof-65.** A delightful, sharply struck gem example with faint gold toning. The devices have heavy lustre while the fields are moderately reflective.

- 1280 1911 Proof-65.** Another gem Proof example of this issue, with deep gold and lilac fields around light blue devices.

From a different collection than the majority of Liberty nickels in the present offering, however, of equally pleasing quality.



- 1281 1912 Proof-67 (NGC).** Richly toned in muted deep gold. *Tied for finest certified by NGC.*

NGC Census: 15; none finer.

- 1282 1912 Proof-66 (NGC).** Deep iridescent rose and gold toning.



- 1283 1912-D MS-65.** A superb Mint State example of the first and only date to include production at the branch mints, in Denver as offered here, or in San Francisco as offered in the next lot. Sharply struck with satiny lustre and light gold toning.



- 1284 1912-S MS-64.** A beautiful Mint State example of this very scarce San Francisco Mint issue. Very faint gold toning is displayed over light gray surfaces. This issue is always considered to be the key date in the set. Only 238,000 examples were struck of the 1912-S Liberty nickel. The story of this coin has been related in several places, no better than by David W. Lange in a past issue of our *Rare Coin Review*.

- 1285 Where the Buffalo roam.** A selection of nickels, all MS-64: ☆ 1913 Type I ☆ 1916 ☆ 1923 ☆ 1928-D ☆ 1929-S ☆ 1934 ☆ 1935 ☆ 1936 ☆ 1936-D ☆ 1938-D/S. Mainly brilliant, a few have attractive golden highlights. (Total: 10 pieces)

- 1286 A quartette of branch mint Buffalo nickels,** each MS-63: ☆ 1913-D Type I ☆ 1913-S Type I ☆ 1914-D ☆ 1915-D. A pleasing group of lustrous lightly toned coins. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1287 PCGS-certified Buffalo nickel quintette:** ☆ 1913 Type II. MS-65 ☆ 1915-D MS-63 ☆ 1925 MS-64 ☆ 1929-S MS-65 ☆ 1938-D MS-65. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1288 A group of MS-64 Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1913 Type II ☆ 1917 ☆ 1925 ☆ 1929-D ☆ 1930-S ☆ 1934-D ☆ 1935-S ☆ 1936 ☆ 1937. All are lustrous, most are faintly toned. (Total: 9 pieces)

- 1289 Denver Mint duo:** ☆ 1913-D Type II. MS-64 ☆ 1914-D MS-63. Both lightly toned. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1290 1913-S Type II. MS-63.** An attractive example of this scarce issue with sharp design details and light gold toning. This is the modified reverse design with the buffalo standing on a flat plain.

The initial design featured a mound with the buffalo at the summit. The design modification was necessary as the initial raised ground or mound rendered the denomination invisible after some time in circulation. A similar problem characterizes the obverse of all Buffalo nickels, however, this feature was never modified.

- 1291 1913-S Type II. MS-63.** A wonderful Mint State example with bright gray satin lustre and exceedingly sharp design details. This is one of the sharpest strikes we have encountered on any San Francisco Mint Buffalo nickel.

Years ago the 1913-S Type II was considered to be one of the top several key issues in the Buffalo nickel set, simply because this was one of the toughest three or four to find in general circulation. Today in 1999 one does not find Buffalo nickels in circulation, so information such as this is not generally known. Instead, catalogue values, population reports, etc., are used to determine relative scarcity. The latter usually describe higher grade coins that have sufficient value to justify certification.

- 1292 Three MS-65 Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1914 ☆ 1915 ☆ 1926. Three lustrous gems, each lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1293 1914-D MS-64.** An attractive example of this scarce issue with medium gray surfaces accented by light gold toning. Sharply struck and highly desirable.

- 1294 A quartette of branch mint Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1914-S MS-60 ☆ 1923-S AU-58 ☆ 1925-S MS-60 ☆ 1926-D MS-61. All are lightly toned. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1295 Branch Mint Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1914-S AU-58 ☆ 1917-D MS-62 ☆ 1928-D MS-63 ☆ 1931-S MS-63. All lightly toned. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1296 1915-S MS-63.** A sharply struck, brilliant light gray Mint State example. Quite scarce and highly desirable.

- 1297 Mint State-63 Buffalo nickel threesome:** ☆ 1916-D ☆ 1916-S ☆ 1918. Each is lustrous and faintly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1298 A half dozen Uncirculated Buffalo nickels,** all MS-64 unless noted: ☆ 1917 ☆ 1920 ☆ 1926 MS-65 ☆ 1927 ☆ 1928 ☆ 1930-S. Each is highly lustrous and each is lightly toned. (Total: 6 pieces)

- 1299 1917-D MS-63.** A lovely example with generally sharp design details, however, some weakness appears at the buffalo's shoulder and among the hair details just above the Indian's braid, the latter feature being nearly flat.



- 1300 1917-S MS-63.** A scarce issue with light gold toning over lustrous gray surfaces. The obverse is quite sharp with full details in the Indian's top braid and complete letters in LIBERTY. The reverse displays light weakness in the usual spots including the buffalo's shoulder and top of the head.

Choice Mint State 1918/7-D Buffalo Nickel An Important Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1301 1918/7-D Overdate. MS-64 (PCGS).** A lovely example of this numismatic rarity. Light gold toning is visible over frosty lustre. A few very small splashes of darker toning are noted. A scattering of very minor surface marks are consistent with the grade. Above average strike with weakness among the top hair curls on the obverse and very slight weakness on the top of the buffalo's back. The tops of LIBERTY are sharp and separated from the rim and the overdate is bold. An outstanding quality example of this rarity, one which is sure to delight any specialist.

At the time this variety was made, coin dies were produced from a hub die that included the entire date, thus every die made from the hub die was identical, and every coin struck from each of these identical dies, was also identical, save for die cracks or other die deterioration. Given this scenario, it is interesting to ponder the exact manner that allowed this variety to exist from a single obverse die, always seen with the die crack mentioned above. Essentially, toward the end of 1917, Mint personnel were creating coinage dies for both 1917 and 1918. Those dies with the 1917 date were to meet existing demand for coinage while the 1918-dated dies were being prepared in anticipation of future demand. Each die had to be struck twice by the hub die in order to receive a full and complete copy of the design. One such die, having already received an impression from the 1917-dated hub die, was then placed in the wrong press, perhaps accidentally or maybe on purpose, and received a second impression from the 1918-dated hub die. Thus, a numismatic rarity was created.

The overdate was not recognized until the 1930s, and even then it was not widely collected. By that time nearly all specimens in existence were quite worn. Relatively few Mint State coins survived.

Mint State 1918/7-D Buffalo Nickel

A Second Opportunity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1302 1918/7-D MS-63.** This incredible coin was consigned by a southern gentleman as part of a collection of Liberty and Buffalo nickels and has been off the market for many years. Lovely satiny gold lustre speaks of the overall quality. Aside from slight roughness along the lower right reverse border, the surfaces are pristine. Softly struck at the center of the obverse as well as the buffalo's head and shoulder. Although most of the curls atop the buffalo's head are weak, the horn is bold and complete. The tops of LIBERTY are weak, however, the overdate feature is bold. With a stronger strike, we would not hesitate to rate this at least MS-64, if not even finer! This is a coin that any collector would be delighted to own, no matter how finicky. In his *Complete Encyclopedia*, Walter Breen suggested that just six **genuine** Mint State examples survive. Although the actual number may be somewhat higher, there is no disputing the rarity of this issue in true Mint State quality.

A short die crack from the top braid angles down along the jaw. Although the strike of this coin is less than ideal, this die crack, which is a hallmark of genuine coins, is plainly visible.

How unusual it is—perhaps how *fantastic* it is would be more appropriate—to include not one but *two* Mint State examples in a single sale!

- 1303 1918-D MS-62.** Deep gray satiny lustre with sharp design details. A very attractive example of this scarce issue, one of the popular issues in the series.

- 1304 1918-D MS-62.** An attractive Mint State example with light gold toning over frosty lustre. Relatively sharp strike for this issue, sharper than normally seen. A small scratch is noted through the final letters of LIBERTY.



- 1305 1918-S MS-62.** Highly lustrous with light gold toning. Somewhat weakly struck with the center of the obverse quite weak and the usual areas of the buffalo poorly defined. A few minor surface marks and abrasions are visible on the reverse.

- 1306 1919 MS-65.** Boldly struck with bright gold and light gray lustre. An extremely attractive example of this issue.

Classic 1919-D Buffalo 5¢



1307 1919-D MS-64 (PCGS). Deep gold toning with lilac and light blue. Extremely sharp strike for this issue with considerable satiny lustre. This issue is very elusive in high Mint State levels such as offered here. Only occasionally do we have one for sale.

1308 1919-D MS-60. Very light gold toning over pleasing surfaces. Quite sharply struck for this issue with nearly complete details among the Indian's hair braids and on the buffalo. A very small point of the shoulder is weakly defined. This is a very scarce issue, and in this quality, quite desirable.



1309 1919-S MS-63. An extremely important example as this has superb lustre and extremely sharp details. The obverse borders are 100% complete and the Indian's hair details are full. The reverse has a small point of weakness at the very top of the buffalo's front shoulder with all other design details bold. One of the most sharply struck examples of this issue that we can remember handling.



1310 1919-S MS-63. Subdued golden lustre on satiny golden gray surfaces. Reverse strike slightly better than typically found for the date, with much pelt detail seen at the bison's shoulder. Scarce in Mint State despite a generous mintage of more than 7.5 million pieces.

1311 A half dozen MS-63 Buffalo nickels: ☆ 1920 ☆ 1921 ☆ 1924 ☆ 1927-D ☆ 1928 ☆ 1936-S. All are lustrous; a few are delicately toned. (Total: 6 pieces)

Lovely 1920-D Buffalo Nickel

Sharply Struck

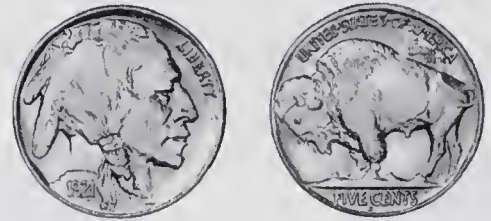


1312 1920-D MS-64. Bright, frosty lustre with light gold toning. Quite sharply struck. This is a very important offering considering the combination of high grade and excellent design detail from the sharp striking.

1313 1920-S MS-62. Lustrous light gray surfaces with splashes of gold toning, especially on the reverse. Typical strike for the issue with weakness on the top of the buffalo's head and on its shoulder. The horn detail is 100% complete.

1314 1921 MS-65 (PCGS). A lovely buffalo nickel with lustrous light gray surfaces and sharp design details. This is a scarce issue in gem quality, made even more popular due to the rarity of the San Francisco Mint counterpart in gem condition.

Important 1921-S Buffalo 5¢



1315 1921-S MS-64. A lovely example of this very scarce and popular issue. Extremely sharp strike, one of the finest in existence. All details on both obverse and reverse are fully defined. Superb light gray satiny lustre with a trace of very faint gold toning. Due to the nature of the strike and the overall quality of this lovely example, we expect substantial bidding competition. For the collector who has waited a long time to find a fully struck, attractive example of this date, the wait is now over.

1316 1924-D MS-62. A pleasing example with average quality of strike. The obverse is quite sharp while the reverse has weakness in the usual areas of the buffalo's shoulder and head.

Scarce 1924-S Buffalo 5¢



1317 1924-S MS-63. A delightful, sharply struck example with light gold toning. A faint trace of iridescence is visible on both obverse and reverse. This is far above average in terms of overall sharpness and certainly a candidate for the finest collection.

Mint State 1924-S Nickel



1318 1924-S MS-61. A lustrous, satiny Mint State example with light iridescent toning, very similar to the previous lot. Sharply struck overall and a coin that is sure to delight the specialist. For those who missed the last lot, this represents a very important second chance.



1319 1925-D MS-64. Very similar in quality to the previous lots, with sharp design details and frosty gold lustre. Light iridescent pink adds to the aesthetic appeal.

1320 1925-D MS-63 (ANACS). Very deep gray toning with iridescent lilac, amber, and russet. An attractive example with average detail.

Choice AU 1926-S Buffalo 5¢

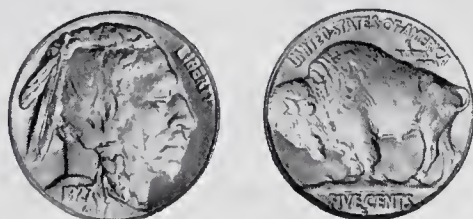
Key to the Series



1321 1926-S AU-58. An important example with considerable lustre and only a faint trace of wear. In fact, we have seen coins of this quality *certified as MS-61 or 62*. Extremely sharp strike for the issue with weakness visible only at the top of the buffalo's front leg. All details of the buffalo's head are absolutely complete. This lovely example would fit in very nicely with a high-quality Mint State collection of this series. Although we have not graded this coin at the Mint State level, its overall appearance is such that anyone not wanting to spend thousands of additional dollars to acquire an MS-60 coin will no doubt be very pleased with this high-quality piece, a coin that will fit nicely in just about any cabinet.

1322 Three MS-65 Buffalo nickels: ☆ 1927 ☆ 1929 ☆ 1930. All fully brilliant. (Total: 3 pieces)

Choice 1927-S Buffalo Nickel



1323 1927-S MS-64 (NGC). Highly lustrous deep bluish gray with traces of light amber toning. A very elusive date which is virtually impossible to find in higher numeric grades. Sharply struck and quite desirable.



1324 1927-S MS-62. A brilliant Mint State example with faint traces of gold toning over light gray surfaces. Bright satiny lustre with very sharp design details. An attractive example of this scarce date.

1325 1931-S MS-66 (ANACS). Brilliant frosty lustre with light gold toning and lilac highlights. This sharply struck gem is among the very finest we have handled. This is a moderately scarce date, coined only at the San Francisco Mint.

1326 Branch mint foursome of MS-65 nickels: ☆ 1931-S ☆ 1935-D ☆ 1937-D ☆ 1937-S. Each is brilliant and highly lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)

1327 1936 Type I. Proof-64. A lovely Proof example with satiny lustre and extremely sharp design details. The obverse and reverse rims, as well as the edge, are all bold and sharp. The surfaces are pristine, far finer than expected for the assigned grade.



1328 1937-D 3-Legged. MS-62. A lovely, lustrous light gold example of this extremely popular variety. All details are sharp and the overall aesthetic appeal is quite high.

This variety was created when an ambitious mint workman vigorously polished the die to remove clash marks. In the process, the buffalo's front right leg was polished away.

1329 1937-D 3-Legged. AU-58. A pleasing example of this issue which shows only very slight traces of wear. Moderately sharp strike with considerable remaining lustre.

1330 1937-D 3-Legged. AU-55 (PCGS). A pleasing example of this variety with light gold toning over nearly full satin lustre. A few insignificant surface marks are noted. This is a very popular variety due, in part, to its inclusion in the *Guide Book*.

1331 1939 Doubled Die reverse. Breen-2665. MS-65 (NGC). Intense cartwheel lustre and shimmering golden toning. A glittering gem specimen of a popular variety. Reverse doubling plainest at MONTICELLO and FIVE CENTS, where it is strong and unmistakable. A tiny carbon fleck is noted in the reverse field at 2:00. In our experience this is a very *rare variety*, although in a discussion a few years ago with Bill Fivaz, whose opinions we respect extremely highly, Bill stated that he thought the variety was not easy to find, but was not as rare as we suggested. We have a nice little group of them offered here, an unusual presentation.

This variety was first publicized by Malcolm O.E. Chell-Frost, a nice gentleman who had a coin office high in a building in downtown Boston. We recall first visiting him in the 1950s. He had very few coins on hand, either in the small showcase he kept or in his safe, and we wondered at the time why he was there and how he could afford to pay the rent. Perhaps he had coins somewhere else, such as in a bank, or perhaps a bright-eyed teenager such as the present writer was at the time, did not represent a "big buyer" and was not shown any delicacies. No matter, we had a nice visit, and recall him talking at some length about the 1939 nickel varieties offered here. He had kept an eagle-eye out for them for a long time, and had acquired dozens from circulation, but none in high Mint State levels. The pieces offered here, and some that we have offered in the past, come from a single source, a bank-wrapped roll that turned up in Rhode Island a number of years ago. We are prompted to go out on a limb and say that no more than 100 specimens exist in such grades as MS-64 or MS-65, but we could be wrong.

1332 1939 Doubled Die reverse. Breen-2665. MS-65 (NGC). Highly lustrous and intensely appealing, certainly as fine as might be imagined for the assigned grade. A satiny gem with a hint of pale golden toning.

1333 1939 Doubled Die reverse. Breen-2665. MS-64 (NGC). A flashy near-gem coin of full mint brilliance and intense lustre. Another beautiful example of this popular doubled die reverse variety. Simply superb for the grade.

1334 1939 Doubled Die reverse. Breen-2665. MS-64 (NGC). A whisper of sky blue and rose on the obverse, a like blush of pale gold on the reverse. A lovely coin overall.

COMMEMORATIVE SILVER COINS

Lovely Gem 1893 Isabella Quarter Columbian Exposition Commemorative



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

1335 1893 Isabella quarter. MS-66 (PCGS). A satiny white gem with a trace of very faint gold toning. All details are extremely bold. Indeed, this is one of the finest strikes we have encountered. This lovely commemorative will surely delight the connoisseur. Struck on behalf of the Board of Lady Managers in connection with the celebration of the Columbian Exposition in Chicago during 1893. Popularly known as the Isabella quarter, this is officially the "Columbian Quarter Dollar" as noted on the reverse.

Colonel James Ellsworth, one of the foremost numismatists of the 1890s and early 20th century, and the owner of two 1804 silver dollars, was a director of the Columbian Exposition and was on hand in Philadelphia during the ceremonial striking of the first specimen of this coin.

1336 A pair of 1893 Isabella quarters, both MS-63. One is chiefly brilliant with a touch of gold at the rims; the other is richly toned in iridescent rose and deep golden gray. (Total: 2 pieces)

1337 1893 Isabella quarter. MS-63. Sharply struck with satiny ivory lustre. A few minor marks are noted. The Columbian quarter dollar, also known as the Isabella quarter due to the obverse portrait, was our nation's first commemorative of this denomination.

1338 Eclectic commemorative silver trio: ☆ 1893 Isabella quarter (2). MS-62 and MS-61 ☆ 1936 Gettysburg half dollar. MS-60. All are lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

Important 1900-Dated Lafayette Dollar

Struck December 14, 1899



1339 1900 Lafayette silver dollar. MS-65 (PCGS). An attractive, sharply struck example with light ivory lustre accented by splashes of gold toning. The original mintage consisted of 50,026 coins struck December 14, 1899 (later, 14,000 were melted). The net number of coins distributed was just 36,026.

It is interesting to note that four different obverse dies are known, along with five different reverse dies. Each die, therefore, lasted only in the range of 10,000 coins. This example is variety 1-A as described in Q. David Bowers' *Commemorative Coins of the United States*, with appropriate credit to Frank Duvall.

1340 1900 Lafayette silver dollar. MS-62. Soft silvery white lustre. This should prove to be an affordable example of this "original" commemorative silver dollar. This is the first commemorative of the denomination struck by our Mint.

1341 1900 Lafayette silver dollar. MS-61. Subdued silver lustre with minor hairlines and other abrasions. An opportunity for the collector of modest means to acquire an example of this commemorative issue.

Mail bidders, don't overlook our One Lot Only bidding option, allowing you to bid on this lot and the previous lot, yet assuring you of only purchasing one of these two coins. Of course, vastly different bids are suggested for each of the lots due to the disparity in grades.

1342 Four Lafayette silver dollars, each with minor problems ☆ Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-58, lightly cleaned (2) ☆ Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50 (2). One lightly cleaned, the other artificially toned. (Total: 4 pieces)

1343 Commemorative coin threesome: ☆ 1900 Lafayette dollar. EF-45 ☆ 1921 Alabama. Plain. AU-58 ☆ 1921 Missouri. 2★4. AU-55. All display varying degrees of light toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

Gem Mint State 1921 Alabama 50¢

2X2 in Field



1344 1921 Alabama Centennial. 2X2. MS-65 (PCGS). A highly lustrous gem with even, pale golden toning on both sides. Nicely struck; a trifle weak at the reverse center, but still sharper there than often found. A no-questions gem, both aesthetically and physically.

Designed by Laura Gardin Fraser, the Alabama Centennial half dollar issue was first offered on October 26, 1921, coinciding with a visit by President Warren G. Harding to Birmingham, Alabama. The 2X2 in the obverse field signifies Alabama's status as the 22nd state to join the Union.

1345 Mint State pair of 1921 Alabama Centennial issues: ☆ 2X2. MS-62 ☆ Plain. MS-63. Each is lustrous and delicately toned. (Total: 2 pieces)

1346 A half dozen commemorative half dollars, all in ANACS holders: ☆ 1921 Alabama. 2X2. MS-61 ☆ 1925-S California. MS-62 ☆ 1892 Columbian. MS-63 ☆ 1922 Grant. Plain. AU-58 ☆ 1920 Maine. MS-63 ☆ 1936 Norfolk. MS-62. All are richly toned. (Total: 6 pieces)

Lustrous Gem 1921 Alabama 50¢

No 2X2 in Field



1347 1921 Alabama Centennial. MS-65 (PCGS). Satiny surfaces exhibit full brilliance and strong lustre. A pleasing gem with strong eye appeal. Nicely struck for the design type.

The obverse of this popular issue features the conjoined busts of William Wyatt Bibb, the first governor of Alabama, along with that of T.E. Kilby, governor of the state in 1921. Kilby's appearance on the coin marked the first instance in U.S. coinage where a living person was actually portrayed on a regular-issue coin, although living people had been depicted on currency earlier (examples including Abraham Lincoln and Spencer Clark).

1348 1921 Alabama Centennial. MS-63. Brilliant at the centers with deep rose highlights at the rims.

1349 1921 Alabama Centennial. MS-63. This is a bright, highly lustrous Alabama half dollar, one of the very finest for the grade level. Above-average strike with only a few very minor marks. We are sure you'll be pleased with the acquisition of the lovely coin.

1350 Commemorative half dollar mix: ☆ 1921 Alabama. Plain. AU-58 ☆ 1925-S California. AU-58 ☆ 1925 Lexington. MS-60 ☆ 1920 Pilgrim. MS-60 ☆ 1921 Pilgrim. MS-63. All are lightly toned. (Total: 5 pieces)

1351 1936 Albany. MS-66 (PCGS). Satiny lilac iridescence on lustrous surfaces.

Struck to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of Albany, New York, now the capital city of that state. The design was by Gertrude K. Lathrop, a native of Albany.

1352 1936 Albany. MS-66 (NGC). Richly toned in deep lilac and pale rose iridescence.

1353 Four popular half dollars, all MS-65, and all lightly toned unless noted: ☆ 1936 Albany ☆ 1936-D Columbia ☆ 1936 Norfolk ☆ 1926-S Oregon Trail. Deep gold and blue iridescence at the rims. A lustrous group. (Total: 4 pieces)

1354 Five MS-64 commemorative half dollars: ☆ 1936 Albany ☆ 1936-S Bay Bridge ☆ 1934 Boone ☆ 1925-S California ☆ 1936 Robinson-Arkansas. All are lustrous and lightly toned. (Total: 5 pieces)

1355 Selection of Mint State commemorative half dollars, all MS-64 unless noted: ☆ 1936 Albany. MS-63 ☆ 1936-S Bay Bridge ☆ 1936 Bridgeport ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain ☆ 1936 Long Island. Each is lightly toned. (Total: 5 pieces)

1356 Lustrous quartette of popular issues, all MS-63: ☆ 1936 Albany ☆ 1936 Cleveland ☆ 1925 Lexington ☆ 1936 Norfolk. All are essentially brilliant with a touch of pale toning. A nice group. (Total: 4 pieces)

1357 1937 Antietam. MS-66 (NGC). A satiny gem with pale sky blue and rose iridescence on both sides.

Designed by William Marks Simpson, the Antietam commemorative half dollar celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam, named for a creek that runs through Sharpsburg, Maryland, where the costly battle occurred. Fought on September 17, 1862, the bloody engagement saw nearly 25,000 casualties by the time the day had ended. This was a turning point in the career of Ambrose Burnside, who was later widely depicted on Civil War tokens issued in his home state of Rhode Island.

1358 1937 Antietam. MS-66 (ANACS). Lustrous satiny surfaces show even pale golden toning that deepens toward the rims.

1359 1937 Antietam. MS-65 (PCGS). Deep golden brown at the rims, mainly brilliant at the centers. Lustrous with bull's eye toning on both sides, this from the original holder in which the coin was sold.

1360 1937 Antietam. MS-65. Natural light ivory lustre with a trace of deep gold toning at the right reverse border. A delightful, sharply struck example of this popular Civil War commemorative.

1361 1937 Antietam. MS-65. Light champagne toning with sharp design details. Very attractive.

Commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam, which took place at the Burnside Bridge as depicted on the reverse. As a further commentary on this issue, the Burnside Bridge, site of the conflict, is depicted on the reverse, named after the aforementioned Ambrose Burnside. Dave Bowers described this issue as "a paragon of commemorative virtue!" The Antietam half dollar was authorized in 1937, dated, struck, and sold this same year, and even celebrated an anniversary that took place in 1937.

1362 1937 Antietam. MS-64. An attractive example of this issue, sometimes (but not very often) called the *Lee-McClellan half dollar* in honor of the Union and Confederate generals depicted on the obverse. Brilliant, frosty lustre.

1363 1935 Arkansas PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS). An evenly matched set of lustrous, pale golden gray coins. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1364 Selection of Arkansas half dollars:** ☆ 1935 PDS set. MS-64 ☆ 1936 MS-60 ☆ 1936-D MS-64 ☆ 1936-S MS-63 ☆ 1937 PDS set. MS-64. All coins are lightly toned. A nice selection. (Total: 9 pieces)
- 1365 1936 Arkansas PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS).** An evenly matched set of lustrous, pale golden gray coins. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1366 A half dozen commemorative half dollars, each MS-63:** ☆ 1936 Arkansas ☆ 1936 Gettysburg ☆ 1936 Robinson-Arkansas ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain ☆ 1934 Texas ☆ 1946 Booker T. Washington. All are lustrous and most exhibit a hint of toning. (Total: 6 pieces)
- 1367 1937 Arkansas PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS).** Three satiny and lustrous coins with a whisper of pale gold on each. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1368 1938 Arkansas PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS).** Three satiny gems, each with pale golden gray toning. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1369 1938 Arkansas PDS set. MS-63.** Each is brilliant and lustrous with a touch of deep gold at the rims. (Total: 3 pieces)

Gem Uncirculated 1939 Arkansas Set

- 1370 1939 Arkansas PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS).** Each is a lustrous gem, with pale rose and gold iridescence. A remarkable set in regard to its enticingly low distribution figure, just 2,101 examples of each of the three mints. (Total: 3 pieces)

The story of the Arkansas commemorative set as well as other commemoratives of the era is fascinating, sometimes unbelievable, and is filled with all sorts of intrigue. If you do not have a copy of Dave's large book on the subject, *Commemorative Coins of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, an award-winning volume which has stood as the most comprehensive source on the subject, by all means order one today from our Publications Department. The list price is \$39.95 for a softbound, \$49.95 for hardbound, minus a 10% discount, plus \$5 shipping. Ordering one is easy as a piece of cake, just call 1-800-222-5993 and ask for Mary Tocci. The reason for including this detailed information here is that such orders should be kept separate from your bid sheet and, in view of the nice commemoratives we offer in the sale, you might want to order a book right away—in order to learn about this fascinating series.

- 1371 1939 Arkansas PDS set.** The Philadelphia coin is MS-64, the other two issues are each MS-63. Each coin is lustrous and faintly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1372 1936-S Bay Bridge. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny with light iridescent gold on the obverse that deepens on the reverse.

Designed by San Francisco artist Jacques Schnier and struck to commemorate the opening of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. This issue was actually sold at drive-up booths at the entrance to the bridge on opening day.

One of our most memorable typographical errors occurred when describing an example of this years ago. We had intended to say that this half dollar featured a bear on the *obverse*, but somehow it came in print that it featured a "bear on the *observe*," prompting a reader to write in and ask if the male bear depicted was looking for a female bear!

- 1373 Group of Mint State commemorative half dollars:** ☆ 1936-S Bay Bridge. MS-64 ☆ 1922 Grant. Plain. MS-63 ☆ 1924 Huguenot. MS-63 ☆ 1946 Iowa. MS-64 ☆ 1934 Maryland. MS-63 ☆ 1920 Pilgrim. MS-64 ☆ 1936-D Rhode Island. MS-64 ☆ 1936 Robinson-Arkansas. MS-64. Each exhibits a hint of light golden toning. (Total: 8 pieces)

- 1374 Seven Mint State half dollars:** ☆ 1936-S Bay Bridge. MS-63 ☆ 1922 Grant. Plain. MS-62 (2) ☆ 1924 Huguenot. MS-62 ☆ 1925 Lexington. MS-63 (2) ☆ 1920 Maine. MS-63. Each coin displays some degree of toning. (Total: 7 pieces)

- 1375 Four Mint State half dollars:** ☆ 1936-S Bay Bridge. MS-62 ☆ 1925-S California. MS-62 ☆ 1934 Maryland. MS-63 ☆ 1936 Wisconsin. MS-62. All are lustrous with pale golden highlights. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1376 1934 Boone Bicentennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** Subdued lustre on satiny surfaces, pale golden toning on both sides.

Designed by Augustus Lukeman, this issue celebrates the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Daniel Boone. The obverse depicts the famous frontiersman, while the reverse bears a rendering of Boone and Chief Black Fish.

- 1377 A half dozen Uncirculated Boone half dollars:** ☆ 1934 MS-64 ☆ 1935 MS-65 ☆ 1935-D (2). MS-64 and MS-63 ☆ 1935-S (2). MS-64 and MS-63. All are highly lustrous with a touch of warm golden toning. (Total: 6 pieces)

The distribution of these half dollars was done by C. Frank Dunn, who had two offices on the second floor of the Phoenix Hotel in Lexington, Kentucky. Seeking to learn more about the Phoenix Hotel we contacted Jeff Garrett of that city while doing research for the book, *Commemorative Coins of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, but learned that the structure had been demolished. Of all characters involved in the commemorative spree of the 1930s, none is more interesting to read about than Dunn.

- 1378 Five popular half dollar issues, all MS-63:** ☆ 1934 Boone ☆ 1892 Columbian ☆ 1924 Huguenot ☆ 1920 Maine ☆ 1934 Maryland. All are lightly toned. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1379 1935 Boone Bicentennial PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS).** Each coin is lustrous with a touch of pale golden toning. An evenly matched gem set. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1380 Four commemorative half dollars, brilliant unless noted:** ☆ 1935 Boone. MS-63. Deeply toned ☆ 1935 Connecticut. MS-64 ☆ 1946 Iowa. MS-64. Deeply toned ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain. MS-63. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1381 1935/34 Boone Bicentennial PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS).** An evenly matched set, each coin lustrous and satiny, and with a touch of warm golden toning. *The Denver and San Francisco coins each have a distribution of only 2,000 pieces—the smallest figures in the commemorative half dollar series.* Thus, this set is of extreme importance, with the present high quality adding even more significance. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1382 1935/34 Boone Bicentennial PDS set:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-63 ☆ Denver. MS-65 ☆ San Francisco. MS-64. All are highly lustrous and faintly toned. A very popular issue. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1383 A selection of ANACS-certified half dollars:** ☆ 1935/34 Boone. MS-64 ☆ 1918 Lincoln-Illinois. MS-64 ☆ 1926-S Oregon Trail. MS-65 ☆ 1935-S San Diego. MS-64 ☆ 1926 Sesqui-centennial. MS-63. All are moderately toned. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1384 1936 Boone Bicentennial PDS set, PCGS-certified:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-66 ☆ Denver. MS-65 ☆ San Francisco. MS-65. A lustrous pale golden threesome. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1385 1936 Boone Bicentennial PDS set:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-64. Brilliant ☆ Denver. MS-65. Brilliant ☆ San Francisco. MS-64. Toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1386 1937 Boone Bicentennial PDS set. Certified by PCGS.** The Philadelphia and Denver coins are each MS-65, while the San Francisco issue is MS-66. Three delicately toned lustrous gems. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1387 1937 Boone Bicentennial PDS set:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-63 ☆ Denver. MS-65 ☆ San Francisco. MS-64. Each coin is fully lustrous and lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1388 Foursome of popular half dollar issues, all MS-63: ☆ 1937 Boone ☆ 1946 Iowa ☆ 1918 Lincoln-Illinois ☆ 1936 Long Island. Each exhibits a nuance of pale toning. (Total: 4 pieces)

Superb Gem 1937-D Boone



- 1389 1937-D Boone Bicentennial. MS-67 (PCGS). A superb-quality example with bold frosty devices. The surfaces exhibit strong lustre with light splashes of pleasing original toning. Bright, beautiful, and seldom encountered in this lofty grade.

- 1390 1938 Boone Bicentennial PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS). An evenly matched set, each coin lustrous with a hint of golden toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1391 1938 Boone Bicentennial PDS set. The Philadelphia coin is MS-65, the other two coins are each MS-64. All are lustrous and brilliant with a slight whisper of gold at the rims. A nice set. Another opportunity to acquire this highly important set. (Total: 3 pieces)

Of the later Boone half dollars, the 1938 set has the smallest production, just 2,100 of each variety. Despite our writing about it on numerous circumstances, we still often think about the low price level in the commemorative market at present, and how much potential it offers. The problem seems to be caused by the new commemoratives, 1982 to date, which in many instances sell for below their issue prices, and still continue to garner a lot of bad press (such as extending distribution dates that were previously announced as being closed, etc.).

- 1392 1936 Bridgeport Centennial. MS-66 (PCGS). A whisper of iridescent silver gray on both sides of this satiny gem.

Authorized May 15, 1936, this commemorative half dollar was designed by Henry Kreis, and features the bust of Bridgeport's most famous citizen, P.T. Barnum, on the obverse. Barnum may not have been a numismatist, but he certainly "collected" coins, having acquired them from several directions, including the Tammany Museum Collection that later went to Scudder's Museum, and then to Barnum. We have heard tell that a catalogue listing coins owned by Barnum in the 1850s and/or early 1860s existed at one time, and we would be grateful to see a copy today.

Superb Gem 1925-S California 50¢



- 1393 1925-S California Diamond Jubilee. MS-67 (PCGS). Richly and evenly toned in iridescent gold, electric blue, and violet toward the rims, mainly silver gray at the centers. Highly lustrous.

Struck to commemorate the 75th anniversary of California's admission to the Union. The design, by California artist Jo Mora, depicts a '49er panning for gold on the obverse, with the state symbol, a majestic grizzly bear, on the reverse. In his booklet on the commemorative series published in 1937, B. Max Mehl gave an artistic review of the different motifs as he perceived them, naming this particular design as his favorite.



- 1394 1925-S California Diamond Jubilee. MS-65. A gem California half dollar, something that you don't see every day! Bright, natural ivory lustre with splashes of pale brown toning. The surfaces are pristine, without visible marks or impairments. This is one of the finest California half dollars available. Sure to please most any collector.

- 1395 A half dozen popular commemorative half dollar issues: ☆ 1925-S California. MS-62 ☆ 1936 Gettysburg. AU-58 ☆ 1925 Lexington. MS-63 ☆ 1936 Long Island. MS-63 ☆ 1923-S Monroe. MS-63 ☆ 1936 Wisconsin. MS-62. All are lustrous and very faintly toned. (Total: 6 pieces)

- 1396 Selection of ANACS-certified commemorative half dollars, each holder marked "Cleaned": ☆ 1925-S California. Net MS-60 ☆ 1924 Huguenot. Net AU-50 (2) ☆ 1921 Missouri 2★4. Net EF-40 ☆ 1925 Vancouver. Net AU-50. All are toned to some degree. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1397 1951 Carver-Washington PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS). The Philadelphia piece has light lilac toning while the Denver issue is lustrous with pale silver gray toning. The San Francisco issue is brilliant and fully lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1398 Quartette of popular commemorative issues, each MS-63: ☆ 1951 Carver-Washington ☆ 1893 Columbian Exposition ☆ 1936 Delaware ☆ 1936 Lynchburg. Each coin is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1399 1952 Carver-Washington PDS set, all graded by PCGS: ☆ Philadelphia. MS-66. A brilliant and lustrous gem ☆ Denver. MS-65. Very light champagne toning with a splash of deep brown ☆ San Francisco. MS-66. A lustrous example with russet and lilac toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1400 1953 Carver-Washington PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS). The Philadelphia and San Francisco issues are brilliant and highly lustrous. The Denver issue is lustrous with faint golden brown toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1401 1954 Carver-Washington PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS). The Philadelphia issue has subdued lustre visible beneath light ivory toning. The other two pieces are fully brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1402 Quintette of original PDS commemorative sets: ☆ 1954 Carver-Washington set. MS-63. All nearly brilliant with bright lustre ☆ 1946 Booker T. Washington set. MS-64 (2). Five pieces with matching mottled golden brown toning, the sixth with a heavy concentration of vivid violet. All lustrous and original ☆ 1947 Booker T. Washington set. MS-64 (2). All lustrous and mostly brilliant, a few with small golden brown toning spots. Also included with the lot is one original mailing envelope for a Booker T. Washington PDS set. An attractive offering. (Total: 15 coins; 1 envelope)

- 1403 1936 Cincinnati PDS set. MS-65 (PCGS).** All are sharply struck examples, lustrous and mostly brilliant. The Philadelphia issue displays light iridescent toning at the borders while the San Francisco coin features splashes of deep gold toning over ivory surfaces. The obverse and reverse rims of the same are dark golden brown. (Total: 3 pieces)

The 1936 Cincinnati issues are among the most interesting of the era and were the brainchild of numismatist Thomas Melish, who might be rightly remembered as a *pirate*, a term of his own making.

- 1404 1936 Cincinnati PDS set. MS-64.** Each piece is lustrous, original, and with nearly full mint brilliance save for traces of pleasing gold toning. An attractive and well-matched set. (Total: 3 pieces)

The reverse of the Cincinnati half dollar uses a inner circle to separate the peripheral inscriptions, a very nice idea that has been used with great effect elsewhere in coinage—not only in the commemorative series but among the illustrious pattern half dollars of 1877, to give just a short mention.

- 1405 Trio of 1936-dated commemorative half dollars:** ☆ Cincinnati. MS-63. Fully brilliant with satiny lustre ☆ Elgin. MS-63. Sharply struck with brilliant, frosty lustre ☆ Oregon Trail. MS-63. A pleasing example with faint champagne toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1406 1936 Cleveland. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny and lustrous gem, brilliant at the centers, with deep rainbow iridescence at the rims. A pretty piece.

Struck to commemorate the centennial of Cleveland, Ohio on the occasion of the Great Lakes Exposition, held in Cleveland in 1936. Designed by Brenda Putnam. Much of the issue, although dated 1936, was actually struck in 1937.

- 1407 Selection of interesting commemorative issues, each MS-64:** ☆ 1936 Cleveland. Moderate golden brown toning ☆ 1936 Elgin. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1918 Lincoln. Bright satin lustre ☆ 1936 Long Island. Predominantly brilliant with splashes of russet toning ☆ 1936 Lynchburg. Fully brilliant satin lustre ☆ 1920 Maine. Primarily brilliant lustre with golden brown toning on the obverse ☆ 1934 Maryland. Fully brilliant and attractive. (Total: 7 pieces)

No lengthy mention of commemoratives should be made without noting Helen Carmody, who married Jerry Lebo last year and is now known as Helen Carmody-Lebo. For a long time she has been the foundation rock of the Society for U.S. Commemorative Coins and has created its excellent *Commemorative Trail* newsletter. In a recent conversation with Helen we asked her if she was participating in the current ANA election lineup, and she stated that she was running for vice president. "It is not too early to announce your intentions for later years," we suggested, only half in fun, realizing that Scott Travers, the current vice president of the ANA, has not elected to run for the highest office, president, in the current election or the next election (2001), but has jumped ahead to throw his hat in the ring for 2003. Thus, perhaps Helen should declare for 2001 or 2005! It is very nice to see all of this interest and action, as in some past years the number of candidates seeking the higher post has been limited.

- 1408 Commemorative quintette featuring issues from the mid 1930s:** ☆ 1936 Cleveland. MS-64. An attractive example with fully brilliant mint lustre ☆ 1936 Lynchburg. MS-65. A lustrous example with light gold toning ☆ 1936 Robinson. MS-64. Fully lustrous and very attractive ☆ 1935-S San Diego. MS-65. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1936-D San Diego. MS-65. Fully brilliant with very light gold toning. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1409 1936 Columbia Sesquicentennial PDS set, each graded by PCGS:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-65. Satiny lustre with very faint traces of champagne toning ☆ Denver. MS-66. Light pewter-gray toning ☆ San Francisco. MS-65. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1410 1936 Columbia Sesquicentennial PDS set:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-64 ☆ Denver. MS-66 ☆ San Francisco. MS-65. Each is fully lustrous and brilliant with splashes of iridescent gold at the edges. An attractive, well-matched set. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1411 1936 Columbia Sesquicentennial PDS set:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-64 ☆ Denver. MS-64 ☆ San Francisco. MS-65. Each has brilliant, satiny mint lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1412 1892 Columbian Exposition. MS-65 (PCGS).** Highly lustrous and richly toned in iridescent gold, lavender, and pale sea green. Somewhat prooflike in the fields. An attractive gem specimen of our nation's first commemorative half dollar issue.

The obverse of this famous issue was designed by Charles E. Barber, while the reverse was by George T. Morgan. The Morgan vs. Barber scenario is rather interesting and is discussed at some length in our current catalogue featuring the Harry Bass Collection, Part I.

- 1413 1893 Columbian Exposition. MS-65.** Lustrous and chiefly brilliant at the centers with warm golden brown near the rims. A satiny gem example of the second of two years of the design type.

The year 1893 represents the 401st anniversary of the "Discovery" of America. The exposition opened a year late, and was not generally available to the public until the year of this coin. In the same year, the Isabella quarters were commemorated. This set a scene for odd commemorations, with the 401st anniversary of the discovery of Columbus being joined later by such things as the 102nd anniversary of the state of Alabama (celebrated by a coin in 1921, although the anniversary took place in 1919), and the curious, recent odd anniversary of the Korean War.



- 1414 1935 Connecticut Tercentenary. MS-66 (PCGS).** A lustrous and very appealing example of the design type. A blush of rose and pale golden iridescence graces both sides. Lovely.

This attractive issue commemorates the 300th anniversary of the founding of Connecticut. The design, by Henry Kreis, depicts the famous Charter Oak. Tradition has it that the charter of the colony was hidden in the tree during the reign of James II of England, who wished to revoke the charter.

- 1415 Quintette of MS-64 commemorative half dollars:** ☆ 1935 Connecticut. Splashes of amber toning ☆ 1936 Delaware. Brilliant satin lustre ☆ 1936 Elgin. Bright frosty mint lustre ☆ 1936 Long Island. Deep gold and dark russet toning on the obverse. The reverse is fully brilliant ☆ 1920 Maine. Brilliant, frosty lustre. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1416 Quartette of desirable commemorative issues:** ☆ 1935 Connecticut. MS-64. A lovely example with frosty mint lustre and full brilliance ☆ 1936 Delaware. MS-65. Frosty lustre with very light peripheral gold toning ☆ 1934 Maryland. MS-64. Brilliant frosty lustre with above-average design details ☆ 1934 Texas. MS-66. A brilliant example with very faint golden brown toning on the obverse. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1417 1936 Delaware Tercentenary. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny and lustrous gem with just a whisper of pale golden iridescence present. Lovely to behold.

The design of this issue, struck to commemorate the tercentennial of the arrival of Swedish settlers in what is now Delaware, was chosen from among many others in a competition which was won by Carl L. Schmitz. The Old Swede Church is depicted on the obverse, while the ship that brought the settlers, the *Kalmar Nyckel*, is shown on the reverse.

- 1418 1936 Elgin. MS-66 (PCGS). A satiny gem with a whisper of pale silver gray toning on both sides.

Struck to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Elgin, Illinois. The proceeds from the sale of the coins were used to finance the Pioneer Memorial statue depicted on the reverse. The coin and the statue depicted on the reverse were both designed by Trygve Rovelstad. His widow, Gloria, became interested in the coinage, and the present editor (QDB) facilitated her membership in the Society for U.S. Commemorative Coins.

- 1419 Trio of important commemorative issues: ☆ 1936 Elgin. MS-64. Brilliant and sharply struck with very faint amber toning around the reverse border ☆ 1936 Robinson. MS-64. Brilliant satiny lustre with light gold toning ☆ 1927 Vermont. MS-64. An attractive, sharply struck example with very faint toning. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 1420 1936 Gettysburg. MS-66 (PCGS). A satiny gem with even pale golden toning on both sides.

Designed by Pittsburgh sculptor Frank Vittor, this popular issue was struck to commemorate the 75th anniversary of this famous battle, often referred to as the "High Tide of the Confederacy." The obverse features the portraits of a Union and Confederate soldier, while the reverse features shields emblazoned with the flags of both armies.

- 1421 1936 Gettysburg. MS-65. A satiny and lustrous gem specimen, mainly brilliant save for a hint of pale gold at the rims.

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Superb 1922 Grant Half Dollar With Star Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1422 1922 Grant. With Star. MS-66 (PCGS). This must be considered one of the very finest examples we have handed of this issue. Sharply struck with slightly reflective surfaces, the result of numerous very fine die polish lines always seen on genuine examples of the issue. Ivory lustre with light gold and iridescent toning around the borders on both sides. At the time of issue, the star was added above the inscription GRANT merely to promote additional sales. Today, the variety with obverse star is a major rarity in the commemorative silver series.

In his *Commemorative Encyclopedia*, Dave Bowers noted: "Use the 'I will buy it only if I like it' principle when seeking this coin, and if a specimen is unattractive turn it down. Quite a bit of looking may be required to find a nice example, and even then it may not win a beauty prize."

If I (Mark Borckardt) were the judge in this commemorative beauty pageant, I would declare the present Grant With Star half dollar the first-place prize winner.

The 1922 Grant With Star, of which only 4,256 were distributed (compared to 67,405 for the Without Star issue) was well known and, indeed, famous in the early reach of the commemorative series, the field as it existed in numismatics prior to the great boom of 1935. Thus, anyone on the scene in 1934 would have recognized that this coin was difficult to find even then, and was the absolute key to the series. No hoards or undistributed groups are known to have come on the market (quite unlike certain other issues).

After the spectacular events in the market in 1935-1936, the 1922 Grant With Star became lost in the shuffle, and in modern times it is even more lost—as few come on the market, and not many people know its true scarcity or history.



- 1423 1922 Grant. With Star. MS-63.** A very pleasing example of this commemorative variant, produced to generate additional sales. Satiny silver lustre with a trace of light brown toning.

It is a curious footnote in numismatics that this variety should not exist. The issuing agency requested the addition of stars on some of the *gold dollar* commemoratives of similar design, but when the *half dollars* arrived, they were found to have had stars as well! What a surprise. Needless to say, playing into the demand that arose for them, the members of the U.S. Grant Centenary Memorial Commission were delighted.



- 1424 1922 Grant. With Star. MS-62 (ANACS).** Lustrous with rich golden brown toning on both sides. A scarce and popular issue.

Designed by Laura Gardin Fraser, this issue was struck to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ulysses S. Grant. The obverse star, of no historical significance (but of great numismatic importance!), was removed from later issues, thus creating two distinct varieties of the date.



- 1425 1922 Grant. Plain. MS-66 (PCGS).** An outstanding gem with satiny surfaces and a whisper of rose iridescence. Lovely from both a physical and aesthetic viewpoint, with essentially mark-free surfaces and more "pizzazz" than is typically encountered for the issue.

- 1426** Quartette of moderately toned commemorative half dollars, each MS-63: ☆ 1922 Grant. Plain. ☆ 1936 Lynchburg ☆ 1926 Oregon Trail ☆ 1926-S Oregon Trail. (Total: 4 pieces)

Outstanding 1928 Hawaiian Half Dollar



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1427 1928 Hawaiian Sesquicentennial. MS-66 (PCGS).** A sharply struck (!) gem with light amber toning over superb satiny lustre. Although we cannot describe this as a once in a lifetime opportunity, certainly seldom does such an opportunity come along. We are delighted to offer this gem Hawaiian half dollar. Just 10,008 examples of Juliette May Fraser's lovely design were produced with the majority of survivors in lower quality. This is a scarce issue in all grades, however, it becomes a prime rarity in gem quality.

There are three basic commemorative "types" or designs for which 10,008 were struck—the odd eight representing pieces for the Assay Commission. These are, in order of emission, the 1928 Hawaiian, the 1935 Hudson, and the 1935 Old Spanish Trail (in numismatical alphabetization the "Old" has been forgotten, and the latter piece is usually found under "S" as in Spanish). The Hawaiian pieces were mainly distributed in the Hawaiian Islands, with fewer than half going to the numismatic community. In contrast, both issues of 1935 were distributed almost exclusively to collectors. Thus, today while the three pieces ostensibly are of the same rarity—if *only* mintages are consulted—the Hawaiian is, in fact, much rarer.



- 1428 1928 Hawaiian Sesquicentennial. AU-58.** A lustrous and richly toned specimen of the key date in the commemorative half dollar series. Deep golden gray on both sides.

The design of this important issue was by Juliette May Fraser of Honolulu, while the dies were done by Chester Beach.



- 1429 1928 Hawaiian Sesquicentennial. AU-58.** A very lightly circulated example of this scarce issue. Despite being cleaned, nearly complete lustre remains. With choice and gem Mint State examples bringing up to several thousand dollars, this is a wonderful opportunity for the collector with a budget.



- 1430 1935 Hudson Sesquicentennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** Lilac iridescence on satiny silver gray surfaces. A lustrous and attractive gem.

Struck to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the city of Hudson, New York. The design was by Chester Beach. These were to be distributed at \$1 each by a bank in Hudson, but officials of the bank got "cold feet," felt that there would be only a customers, and stated that they were delighted to sell virtually the entire issue to New York dealer Julius Guttag.

- 1431 1935 Hudson Sesquicentennial. MS-64 (PCGS).** Pale golden toning on satiny surfaces.

- 1432 1935 Hudson Sesquicentennial. MS-63.** Highly lustrous and brilliant at the centers with warm golden halos at the rims.



- 1433 1924 Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny specimen with a hint of pale heather on lustrous surfaces. Essentially problem-free, and worthy of the assigned grade.

George T. Morgan, designer of the ever-popular Morgan dollar, also designed this issue, which was struck to commemorate the landing in the New World of the Dutch Settlers who founded New Netherland (now New York) in 1624. Interestingly, in the 1930s when Moritz Wormser decided to go into the coin business he came up with a name "New Netherlands Coin Company" adding an "s" to Netherland where none had been before. The name was never changed.

- 1434 1918 Lincoln-Illinois Centennial. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny silver gray surfaces display warm lilac toning and intense cartwheel lustre. Well struck in all areas, and choice as such. A true gem.

This is one of the more interesting issues from a nomenclature viewpoint. Still tenaciously called the *Lincoln-Illinois* half dollar (and often times just plain old *Lincoln*) by many of today's collectors, this issue celebrates the centennial of the State of Illinois, as it so proudly states on the obverse. Perhaps Illinois couldn't find a "favorite son" to portray on their 1918-dated half dollar, and so resorted to a portrait of Abraham Lincoln, who just happened to be born (and spend much of his youth) in *Kentucky*. Be that as it may, this

popular variety may spend the entire future of numismatics listed alphabetically under "L" instead of "I." However, some people get it right, including the editor of the *Guide Book of United States* who files it under "I" as Illinois. Come to think of it, we should probably go with the *Guide Book* flow and use Illinois ourselves!

- 1435 1918 Lincoln-Illinois Centennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** Deep golden gray with deeper golden toning near the rims. Subdued lustre. Nicely struck for the type.

- 1436 Trio of popular commemorative half dollar issues:** ☆ 1918 Lincoln-Illinois. MS-64. Fully brilliant ☆ 1923-S Monroe. MS-64. Very faint peripheral russet and blue toning ☆ 1936 Norfolk. MS-65. Light ivory lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1437 Assortment of interesting commemorative half dollar issues:** ☆ 1918 Lincoln-Illinois. MS-64. Fully brilliant with a trace of golden rose toning along the obverse border ☆ 1937-D Oregon Trail. MS-64. Brilliant with satiny lustre ☆ 1937 Roanoke. MS-64. Fully brilliant with bright frosty lustre ☆ 1935-D Texas. MS-65. An attractive, brilliant example with very slightly reflective obverse fields ☆ 1936 York. MS-64. Lustrous and brilliant. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1438 Trio of commemorative half dollar issues, each graded MS-63:** ☆ 1918 Lincoln-Illinois ☆ 1936 Lynchburg ☆ 1938 New Rochelle. Each is brilliant and attractive, the New Rochelle having lightly reflective fields. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1439 1946 Iowa Centennial. MS-67 (PCGS).** Pale rose toning on frosty surfaces. A lustrous example of an issue that is nearly always seen in high grade, say MS-64 or finer.

Adam Pietz, a Philadelphia medallist, designed the Iowa Centennial half dollar issue.

- 1440 1925 Lexington-Concord Sesquicentennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** A highly lustrous pale golden specimen with a nearly prooflike appearance. Nicely struck. Easily of the quality typically envisioned for the assigned grade.

The design was by Chester Beach. The obverse features a depiction of the Old Belfry at Lexington, while the reverse is modeled after Daniel Chester French's famous statue of the Lexington-Concord Minuteman, located in Concord, Massachusetts.



- 1441 1936 Long Island Tercentenary. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny silver gray on the obverse with a burst of rainbow iridescence at the rim. The reverse is essentially brilliant with a smooth, almost matte-like appearance. A pretty coin overall.

Designed by Howard Kenneth Weinman, son of noted sculptor A.A. Weiman, designer of the Liberty Walking half dollar. Struck to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the first white European settlement on Long Island, New York.

- 1442 1936 Lynchburg Sesquicentennial. MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant and satiny with strong lustre on both sides.

Designed by Charles Keck, the obverse carries the portrait of Senator Carter Glass who, despite his protests about the appearance of living people on coins, lived to see his own portrait on a coin.



- 1443 1920 Maine Centennial. MS-66 (PCGS).** Highly lustrous with a splash of pale gold on each side.

Struck to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Maine's admittance to the Union. Designed by a person unknown, but modeled by Anthony de Francisci who designed the Peace dollar of 1921-1935.



- 1444 1934 Maryland Tercentenary. MS-66 (PCGS).** Highly lustrous, pale iridescent lilac surfaces display a flash of vibrant rainbow toning at the rims. A satiny gem.

Struck to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Maryland Colony by Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore, who is depicted on the obverse. The reverse shows the Arms of Maryland. The designs were by Hans Schuler.

Gem 1921 Missouri 50¢

Variety with 2★4 on Obverse



- 1445 1921 Missouri Centennial. 2★4 MS-65 (PCGS).** Deep golden brown and iridescent toning on the obverse, with lustrous ivory around the border. The reverse is a blend of golden rose, amber, and bright blue. Another example of commemorative abuse on the part of the original issuers, the 2★4 obverse inscription was simply intended to create a special issue to get more money out of the pockets of collectors, a feat this variety has been accomplishing ever since! Of course, the *official* purpose was to indicate the state's status as the 24th state to be admitted to the United States.

- 1446 1921 Missouri Centennial. 2★4 MS-62.** Bright silvery white with sharp design details and a touch of very faint toning. Another example of this popular variety, scarce in Mint State.

- 1447 1921 Missouri Centennial. 2★4 MS-62.** Full bright silver lustre with a trace of very light toning. Sharply struck except for the usual flatness on Daniel Boone's cheek on the obverse. Yet another example of this commemorative classic.

Lovely Gem 1921 Missouri Half Dollar

Without 2★4 on Obverse



- 1448 1921 Missouri Centennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** Darker golden brown toning with frosty lustre beneath. A very attractive coin with a decent strike, although some weakness appears on the pioneer's back on the reverse. Most examples (this is an exception) show friction on the highest point of Daniel Boone's cheek. The present coin has full lustre without a trace of friction or rub at this point.

This is an intriguing design, one of very few coins in American numismatic history to depict the same person on both obverse and reverse. Of course, Daniel Boone was a popular historical figure and also appears on both obverse and reverse of the Boone Bicentennial half dollars.

- 1449 1921 Missouri Centennial. MS-63 (ANACS).** Mottled golden toning on lustrous and satiny silver gray surfaces. Nicely struck for the issue.

More on the issue: This attractive design by Robert Aitken celebrates the centennial of Missouri's admission to the Union. None of the standard mottoes or legends (Liberty, In God We Trust, and E Pluribus Unum) appear in the design. Perhaps in the current design competition for the new "state" quarter dollars in the Washington series, this should be remembered—as there seems to be no point in adding all of these mottoes to motifs that are supposed to be historical or artistic. In fact, very few people even know what E PLURIBUS UNUM means (the motto is nice, and we like it, but not at the expense of compromising a design).

Gem Mint State 1923-S Monroe 50¢



- 1450 1923-S Monroe Doctrine Centennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** Lustrous satiny surfaces display evenly distributed rose and pale golden iridescence. A fairly difficult issue to find at the gem level.

Hooray for Hollywood! This issue, designed by Chester Beach, was promoted for and sold in conjunction with a motion picture exposition in June 1923. The innovative reverse design exhibits what is taken to be, at first glance, a map of the Western Hemisphere. Closer examination reveals a neat artistic twist; the continents of North and South America are actually two female figures, an idea swiped from an earlier medal.

- 1451 1938 New Rochelle. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny gem with equal amounts of strong lustre and lovely eye appeal.

Struck to commemorate the founding of New Rochelle, New York, in 1688, by French Huguenots. The original purchase price of the land they settled on, acquired from John Pell, included a fatted calf that was to be given away annually on June 20. This popular issue, designed by Gertrude Lathrop, shows Pell receiving the annual tribute on the obverse.

1452 1938 New Rochelle. MS-65. A pleasing lustrous gem with rich golden toning at the rims.

1453 1936 Norfolk Bicentennial. MS-67 (PCGS). Lustrous and largely brilliant save for a touch of rainbow iridescence at the rims. Satiny surfaces.

This issue celebrates the 300th anniversary of the original land grant of Norfolk, Virginia, and the 200th anniversary of the establishment of that city. Designed by the husband and wife team of William Marks Simpson and Marjorie Emory Simpson.

1454 1926 Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS). Lustrous with a crescent of golden toning on the obverse, and with just a blush of pale gold on the reverse. A pleasing gem.

The first year of a lengthy series that saw mintages in 1926, 1928, 1933, 1934, and again, 1936 through 1939 inclusive, and from various mints. Designed by the husband-wife team of James Earle Fraser and Laura Gardin Fraser. Their rendition of a lone native American facing east with his hand upraised in a futile attempt to stem the flow of American expansion speaks volumes on the subject.

1455 Selection of Oregon Trail commemorative half dollars, each MS-64. The following are all brilliant unless otherwise noted: ☆ 1926 (3). Each light to moderately toned ☆ 1936 ☆ 1936-S ☆ 1937-D ☆ 1938-S. (Total: 7 pieces)

1456 Quartette of Oregon Trail commemorative issues: ☆ 1926 (2). MS-64 and MS-63 ☆ 1934 MS-63 ☆ 1936-S MS-64. Each of these is fully brilliant with satiny lustre, or lightly toned. (Total: 4 pieces)

1457 1926-S Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS). A highly lustrous gem with rich gold and blue iridescence beginning at the rims. A beautiful coin.

1458 Quartette of Oregon Trail half dollars, each MS-65: ☆ 1926-S ☆ 1936 (3). Each is brilliant with considerable lustre, one 1936 having pale gold toning on the obverse. (Total: 4 pieces)

1459 1928 Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS). Satiny silver surfaces exhibit strong cartwheel lustre.

Oregon Trail commemorative half dollars of this date were produced only at the Philadelphia Mint.

1460 Pair of gem-quality Oregon Trail half dollars: ☆ 1928 MS-66. Light champagne toning ☆ 1937-D MS-66. Brilliant with satiny lustre. (Total: 2 pieces)

1461 1933-D Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS). A satiny gem with just a hint of rose toning on each side. A lovely example of the first commemorative half dollar issue struck at the Denver Mint.

The Denver Mint was the only facility to produce Oregon Trail half dollars in 1933. It was also the only facility to produce the design type in 1934 and 1937. Many of these were sold at the Century of Progress Exposition held in Chicago in 1933.

1462 1933-D Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66. Satiny surfaces display a hint of gold at the rims. A frosty gem.

1463 1934-D Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS). Dusky golden brown highlights on satiny surfaces.

1464 1936 Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS). Subdued lustre on satiny gray surfaces.

1465 1936-S Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS). Streaks of orange-gold toning appear on the light gray obverse. The reverse is mainly brilliant at the center with some deep gold at the rim.

1466 Pair of NGC certified MS-66 Oregon Trail half dollars: ☆ 1936-S ☆ 1937-D. Each is very lightly toned. (Total: 2 pieces)

1467 1937-D Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-67 (PCGS). Warm golden orange toning on satiny silver surfaces.

1468 1938 Oregon Trail Memorial PDS set: ☆ Philadelphia. MS-67 (ANACS) ☆ Denver. MS-67 (ANACS) ☆ San Francisco. MS-66 (ANACS). Each coin displays light gold or golden brown toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

The low mintage of this and other late-date Oregon Trail half dollars has made them quite popular with collectors.

1469 1938 Oregon Trail PDS set. Each grades MS-66 (PCGS). An attractive set with each coin brilliant or very lightly toned. The Denver Mint issue has lovely peripheral lilac and gold toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

1470 MS-65 commemorative half dollar threesome, very lightly toned unless noted: ☆ 1938-D Oregon Trail ☆ 1937 Roanoke. Brilliant ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain. (Total: 3 pieces)

1471 Mint State-64 commemorative half dollars, all lightly toned: ☆ 1938-S Oregon Trail ☆ 1920 Pilgrim ☆ 1921 Pilgrim ☆ 1937 Roanoke ☆ 1936 York. (Total: 5 pieces)

Gem 1939 Oregon Trail PDS Set

1472 1939 Oregon Trail Memorial PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS). Each coin is fully brilliant with lovely satin lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)

The mintage of Oregon Trail half dollars touched its low this year, and only 3,000 were distributed from each of the mints.

Another Important 1939 Oregon Set

1473 1939 Oregon Trail Memorial PDS set. Each coin is certified by ANACS: ☆ Philadelphia. MS-65 ☆ Denver. MS-66 ☆ San Francisco. MS-66. Each coin has light ivory lustre with splashes of gold toning. A very attractive set, and an important one also, especially in light of the low mintage combined with the very high grade. (Total: 3 pieces)

1474 1939-S Oregon Trail Memorial. MS-65. Lovely satin lustre with light pewter toning accented by very faint traces of gold. This is a wonderful example of the final issue from this long-lived commemorative series which began 14 years earlier.

Satiny Gem 1915-S Panama-Pacific 50¢



1475 1915-S Panama-Pacific Exposition. MS-66 (PCGS). Lustrous with a hint of pale champagne toning on both sides. A definite gem-quality coin. Some faintness of strike is seen at the reverse eagle, not an uncommon occurrence for the type. Variety with repunched mintmark to north. The first commemorative half dollar design type to bear the motto IN GOD WE TRUST.

Struck to commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal, this issue was designed by Charles E. Barber, who did the obverse honors, and George T. Morgan, who was responsible for the reverse. Originally the idea was to set up a coining press at the Exposition itself and strike these coins on the spot. However, this was not found to be practical, and mintage occurred nearby at the San Francisco Mint.

- 1476 **1915-S Panama-Pacific Exposition. MS-64 (NGC).** Satiny golden gray at the centers gives way to rainbow iridescence at the rims.
- 1477 **1915-S Panama-Pacific Exposition. MS-63.** A lovely satiny specimen with iridescent gold toning evenly disbursed on both sides. Mintmark repunched to north.
- 1478 **1915-S Panama-Pacific Exposition. MS-62.** Dull lustre is subdued by deep brownish gray toning. It is possible that this coin may have been cleaned at one time, then recolored to mask the effects.



- 1479 **1920 Pilgrim Tercentenary. MS-66 (ANACS).** A lustrous gem with deep gold and umber toning highlights, particularly in the recessed areas of the design.

Struck to commemorate the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts in 1620. The designs were selected by the Pilgrim Tercentenary Commission and executed by Cyrus E. Dallin, a Boston sculptor.

- 1480 **1920 Pilgrim Tercentenary. MS-65 (PCGS).** Lustrous and satiny with rose and silver gray toning highlights.

- 1481 **1920 Pilgrim Tercentenary. MS-65.** Frosty lustre is lightly masked by pale grayish brown toning. A most attractive example of this New England-based commemorative coin.

- 1482 **Five commemorative half dollars, all MS-64.** All are lightly toned unless noted: ☆ 1920 Pilgrim ☆ 1921 Pilgrim ☆ 1936-D Rhode Island ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain (2). One is brilliant. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1483 **1921 Pilgrim Tercentenary. MS-65 (PCGS).** A blazing near-white specimen with intense lustre and just a hint of golden toning at the rims. A bright and lovely gem.

- 1484 **Trio of scarce commemorative half dollar issues:** ☆ 1921 Pilgrim Tercentenary. MS-63 ☆ 1937 Roanoke. MS-63 ☆ 1925 Fort Vancouver. MS-63. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1485 **1936 Rhode Island Tercentenary PDS set. Each coin is certified by PCGS and all are brilliant with satiny lustre:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-65 ☆ Denver. MS-66 ☆ San Francisco. MS-65. A desirable set for the commemorative specialist. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1486 **1936 Rhode Island Tercentenary PDS set. MS-64.** All three are fully brilliant with wonderful satiny lustre. A highly attractive commemorative set. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1487 **1937 Roanoke. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny steel gray with deep gold at the rims.

Issued to commemorate the 350th anniversary of Sir Walter Raleigh's ill-fated settlement at the "Lost Colony" of Roanoke Island, Virginia. Designed by William Marks Simpson, the obverse depicts Raleigh, while the reverse depicts settler Elinore Dare and her infant daughter, Virginia Dare, the first child born in the New World to white European parents.

- 1488 **Trio of later-era commemorative half dollar issues:** ☆ 1937 Roanoke. MS-65 ☆ 1936 Wisconsin. MS-65 ☆ 1936 York. MS-65. Each coin is desirable with brilliant silvery white lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 1489 **1936 Robinson Arkansas Centennial. MS-66 (PCGS).** Intensely lustrous with rich golden iridescence at the obverse rim and deep umber at the reverse rim.

The 1936 Robinson-Arkansas half dollar features the reverse of the Arkansas half dollar issues of 1935-1939, as designed by Edward Everett Burr and prepared by Emily Bates of Arkansas. The Robinson obverse was designed by Henry Kreis.

- 1490 **Pair of San Diego, California Pacific Exposition commemorative half dollars, both graded MS-66 (PCGS):** ☆ 1935-S ☆ 1936-D. Both are lustrous and delicately toned. (Total: 2 pieces)

This popular two-year type (1935-S and 1936-D) was designed by Robert Aitken. The obverse depicts Columbia, seated, with a bear and shield, while the reverse shows the State of California building and the exposition tower.

Gem Prooflike 1926 Sesquicentennial 50¢ Among Finest Seen



- 1491 **1926 Sesquicentennial of American Independence. MS-65 (PCGS).** A fully brilliant, lightly prooflike half dollar of this commemorative issue is quite unusual. This is sharply struck (with the exception of Washington's cheek, of course) with all detail boldly evident. Even most of the individual letters on the Liberty Bell on the reverse are distinct. All told, this is one of the very finest examples of this issue to ever pass under our view. Note that the lightly granular appearance on Washington's cheek is from the original planchet, where it was not subjected to pressure from the coinage dies. Similar marks are present on every Sesquicentennial half dollar we have ever seen.

- 1492 **Four MS-63 commemorative half dollars:** ☆ 1926 Sesquicentennial ☆ 1925 Vancouver ☆ 1927 Vermont ☆ 1936 Wisconsin. All are toned. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 1493 **Selection of commemorative half dollars, all MS-63, and all moderately toned unless noted:** ☆ 1926 Sesquicentennial. Deep golden toning ☆ 1925 Vancouver ☆ 1927 Vermont ☆ 1936 Wisconsin ☆ 1936 York. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 1494 **Commemorative half dollar mix, all MS-62 unless noted:** ☆ 1926 Sesquicentennial ☆ 1925 Vancouver ☆ 1927 Vermont (2). MS-62 and AU-58. All are toned. (Total: 4 pieces)



- 1495 1935 Old Spanish Trail. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny silver specimen, fully brilliant with intense cartwheel lustre present on both sides. A definite gem.

This fairly scarce issue celebrates the cross-country trek of the Cabeza de Vaca expedition in 1535. The design was by L.W. Hoffecker, while the models were prepared by Edmund J. Senn. Cabeza de Vaca translates to "head of the cow," thus the allegorical Texas longhorn cow's head on the obverse.



- 1496 1935 Old Spanish Trail. MS-65 (PCGS).** A satiny matte-like gem with strong lustre and eye appeal. Lovely pale silver gray surfaces.

The mintage of this issue was just 10,000 pieces. As such, examples are scarce today, but not as scarce as the 1928 Hawaiian coins (see commentary under Lot 1427).



- 1497 1935 Old Spanish Trail. MS-64.** Satiny and lustrous with deep golden halos at the rims. Highly attractive for the grade.

The distributor for this issue was L.W. Hoffecker, whose marketing involved some unusual logic and public statements which are interesting to read today.

- 1498 1925 Stone Mountain Memorial. MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny matte-like gem with a whisper of pale golden toning evenly distributed on both sides.

The first examples of this type were struck on January 21, 1925, the birthday of General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, who is depicted on the obverse with General Robert E. Lee. The design was by Gutzon Borglum, who initiated (but didn't finish) the carving of the memorial on the face of Stone Mountain in Georgia.

- 1499 1934 Texas Centennial. MS-66 (PCGS).** Pale lavender iridescence on highly lustrous surfaces.

The designs for this issue were by Pompeo Coppini.

- 1500 1935 Texas Centennial PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS).** The Philadelphia Mint issue is very lightly toned, the branch mint issues both brilliant. All have nice mint lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1501 1935 Texas Centennial PDS set:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-64 ☆ Denver. MS-66 ☆ San Francisco. MS-65. A lustrous trio. The Philadelphia Mint issue has light toning; the Denver Mint issue has a prooflike obverse; and the San Francisco Mint issue displays very light champagne toning at the border. A most attractive set. (Total: 3 pieces)

Original Gem 1936 Texas Set

- 1502 1936 Texas Centennial PDS set:** ☆ Philadelphia. MS-66 (PCGS) ☆ Denver. MS-67 (PCGS) ☆ San Francisco. MS-66 (PCGS). Each coin has light ivory lustre with intense russet toning just inside the border. A nicely matched gem threesome. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1503 1936 Texas Centennial PDS set.** Each coin is fully brilliant with satiny lustre: ☆ Philadelphia. MS-65 ☆ Denver. MS-66 ☆ San Francisco. MS-66. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1504 1937 Texas Centennial PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS).** All lustrous and delicately toned. An attractive threesome. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1505 1937 Texas Centennial PDS set. MS-66.** All highly lustrous and faintly toned at the rims. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1506 1938 Texas Centennial PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS).** All highly lustrous and faintly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

This represents the last year of the Texas series. The mintage of the set is defined by the production quantity of the 1938-D, of which only 3,775 were struck. Unlike contemporary Arkansas and Oregon Trail sets, the Texas set seems to have been more widely distributed, with the result that clusters and groups were not common on the market, even 20 or 30 years ago when commemoratives in general were more available than they are today. In 1999 Texas Centennial sets are where you find them, not necessarily often, although without doubt the present auction is an exception!

- 1507 1938 Texas Centennial PDS set.** The San Francisco issue is MS-65, the other two coins are MS-64. Each is brilliant and lustrous with perhaps a touch of pale golden toning. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1508 1938 Texas Centennial PDS set.** The Philadelphia issue is MS-63, while the two branch mint issues are each MS-64. All are lustrous with a touch of golden toning at the rims. A nicely matched set. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 1509 1925 Fort Vancouver Centennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** Lustrous steel gray with pale golden overtones.

Another of several commemorative half dollar issues whose designs can be laid at the door of Laura Gardin Fraser. Struck to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Fort Vancouver, Washington; its founder, Dr. John McLoughlin, is depicted on the obverse.



- 1510 1927 Vermont Sesquicentennial. MS-65 (PCGS).** A lovely gem with highly lustrous surfaces lightly toned in pale gold and pale sky blue. Probably among the most aesthetically appealing examples of this type at the assigned grade level.

Designed by Charles Keck, this issue celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Bennington and the Independence of Vermont. The obverse

bears the portrait of Ira Allen, founder of Vermont, while the reverse depicts a catamount or mountain lion.

Of all commemorative half dollars, this issue is in the highest relief. And yet, the Mint seemed to have no difficulty striking these coins up to full sharpness (in the same year it seemed to be almost impossible to strike regular-issue Liberty Walking half dollars so as to show all of their design detail, even though the regular issues were in lower relief).

- 1511 1946 Booker T. Washington PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS). Each is lustrous and toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1512 1947 Booker T. Washington PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS). Each is lustrous and delicately toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1513 1948 Booker T. Washington PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS). Each is lustrous, the San Francisco piece is toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1514 1949 Booker T. Washington PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS). Each is lustrous. The Denver piece is brilliant, the other two are toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1515 1950 Booker T. Washington PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS). Each is lustrous, and each is delicately toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1516 1951 Booker T. Washington PDS set. MS-66 (PCGS). Each is lustrous, and each is lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 1517 1936 Wisconsin. MS-66 (PCGS). Medium golden toning on lustrous surfaces.

The original design of this issue was by David Parsons, a student at the University of Wisconsin. Benjamin Hawkins, a New York artist, made certain changes to the original design to bring it into conformity with mint standards.

- 1518 1936 York County, Maine Tercentenary. MS-67 (PCGS). A satiny lustrous gem with strong lustre on satiny surfaces. Attractive golden iridescence graces both sides.

Issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the settlement of York County, Maine, it was designed by Walter H. Rich of Portland, Maine. Distribution was through Walter Nichols, a numismatist who also had a keen sense of ethics and was called upon as an advisor by certain other issuing commissions. A few years ago we auctioned his estate collection and also published a book containing excerpts from his fascinating correspondence.

COMMEMORATIVE GOLD COINS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1519 1903 Louisiana Purchase Exposition gold dollar. Jefferson portrait. MS-64. Frosty golden surfaces exhibit a hint of pale olive toning. An attractive coin for the grade.

Distribution of the Louisiana Purchase half dollars was by Farran Zerbe, who for a time (circa 1900) traded as "Coin Zerbe." Beginning his numismatic interest in 1883 when he chanced upon a very curious Liberty Head nickel without CENTS on the reverse, Zerbe went on to acquire pieces he found interesting, and by the turn of the century had a very important collection. In 1928 his display, which had traveled widely and had been shown in banks, fairs, and elsewhere, was sold to the Chase National Bank in New York City, which put it on display beginning in 1929. In later years, the collection was gifted to the Smithsonian Institution, except for the rare 1804 dollar which was presented to the American Numismatic Society.

- 1520 Pair of gold commemorative dollars: ☆ 1905 Lewis & Clark. Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-58, cleaned ☆ 1915-S Panama-Pacific. AU-55. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1521 1916 McKinley gold dollar. MS-64. Strong cartwheel lustre and pale rose toning grace the satiny surfaces. The reverse is somewhat prooflike.

- 1522 1917 McKinley gold dollar. MS-63 (PCGS). A pretty specimen, richly toned in orange-gold in the recessed areas. The scarcer of the two McKinley gold dollar issues (1916 and 1917). Choice for the grade.

Gem Uncirculated 1922 Grant Gold \$1

No Star Obverse



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1523 1922 Grant gold dollar. Plain. MS-65 (NGC). A lustrous gem specimen with strong eye appeal and satiny surfaces. A popular issue at the assigned grade.

Designed by Laura Gardin Fraser, who also designed the Grant half dollar commemoratives. This is an unusual, indeed unique, instance in which the 1922 Grant gold dollars are the same design as the silver half dollars, except for size and inscription differences. The central motifs are identical.



- 1524 1926 Sesquicentennial of American Independence quarter eagle. MS-64 (PCGS). Delightful rose and olive iridescence leaps from the frosty surfaces of this satiny commemorative quarter eagle. A lovely coin of near-gem quality.



- 1525 1926 Sesquicentennial of American Independence quarter eagle. MS-64. Blazing gold with intense cartwheel lustre.

HAWAIIAN COIN



- 1526 1883 ten cents. MS-63 (NGC). Lustrous with pale golden toning highlights on essentially prooflike surfaces. Struck by the San Francisco Mint for the Kingdom of Hawaii. One of the more elusive denominations from that 1883-dated coinage (dimes, quarters, half dollars, and dollars were all struck bearing the date).

PROOF SETS

Gem 1938 Proof Set

- 1527 1938 Proof set**, including two five-cent pieces (one being a duplicate). All are gem Proof-66, and the cent is Proof-66 RD. Most show faint toning highlights. (Total: 6 pieces)
- 1528 1941 Proof set**: ☆ Cent. Proof-63 RD. Two minor obverse spots are visible ☆ Nickel. Proof-64. Soft frosty gray toning, mostly on the reverse ☆ Dime. Proof-64. Splashes of mottled gray and golden toning ☆ Quarter. Proof-64. Splashes of golden brown toning at the peripheries ☆ Half dollar. Proof-63. Brilliant obverse center with attractive golden toning at the rim. The reverse displays mottled toning. Variety without designer's initials on reverse. (Total: 5 pieces)

MISCELLANEOUS U.S. COINS

- 1529 Pair of early coppers**: ☆ 1803 half cent. B-2, C-2. Rarity-4+. G-6 ☆ 1797 large cent. S-130. Net F-15; sharpness of EF-40, corroded. Reverse of '97. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1530 A selection of popular type coins**: ☆ 1832 half cent. B-3, C-3. AU-50 ☆ 1833 half cent. B-1, C-1. AU-50 ☆ 1803 cent. S-258. Net F-12; sharpness of VF-30, porous ☆ 1855 cent. N-9. VF-30. Knob on ear variety ☆ 1857 Flying Eagle cent. Net VF-20; sharpness of EF-45, cleaned ☆ 1858 Flying Eagle cent. Small Letters. VF-30 ☆ 1864 two cents. Large Motto. EF-40 ☆ 1866 two cents. VF-20. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 1531 Eclectic quartette of Mint State type coins**: ☆ 1853 half cent. B-1, C-1. MS-63 BN ☆ 1864 two cents. Large Motto. MS-64 RB ☆ 1914 dime. MS-64 ☆ 1936 Wisconsin half dollar. MS-64. A pleasing group overall. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1532 Trio of PCGS-certified Mint State coppers**: ☆ 1854 half cent. B-1, C-1. MS-63 RB ☆ 1908 cent. MS-65 RD ☆ 1909 V.D.B. Lincoln cent. MS-66 RD. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1533 Desirable type coins**: ☆ 1859 cent AU-50 ☆ 1852 three-cent silver. AU-55 ☆ 1866 five cents. Rays on reverse. AU-58 ☆ 1867 five cent No Rays. MS-63 ☆ 1831 half dime V-4, Rarity-2. AU-58 ☆ 1853 half dime. With Arrows. AU-50. (Total: 6 pieces)
- 1534 Quintette of certified coins**: ☆ 1907 cent. MS-65 RB (PCGS) ☆ 1864 two cents. Large Motto. MS-62 BN (ANACS) ☆ 1865 two cents. MS-63 PQ (PCI). Label reads "90% Red, Struck Thru" ☆ 1915 quarter. MS-61 (PCI). Deeply toned ☆ 1936-S quarter. MS-65 (ANACS). (Total: 5 pieces)
- 1535 Pair of type coins**: ☆ 1908 cent. Proof-64 RB. Attractive ☆ 1864 two cents. Large Motto. MS-63 RB. A nice pair. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1536 A trio of Mint State minors**: ☆ 1916-S Lincoln cent. MS-64 RB (NGC) (2). Both with pleasing red-brown surfaces. One shows several long die cracks from the rim toward the center of the coin, indicative of the approaching end of die life ☆ 1898 Liberty nickel. MS-64 (NGC). Some trivial spotting is noted, otherwise brilliant. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1537 Mixed lot of certified U.S. coins**: ☆ 1937 cent. Proof-65 RD (NGC) ☆ 1927 nickel. MS-64 (ANACS) ☆ 1942-P nickel. Proof-66 (ANACS) ☆ 1884-CC dollar. MS-63 DMPL (ANACS). VAM-4 ☆ 1885 dollar. MS-65 (ANACS). VAM-1. An attractive group overall. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 1538 High-grade 20th-century offering**. Lincoln cents: ☆ 1938-D MS-67 RD (NGC) ☆ 1940-D MS-67 RD (NGC) (2) ☆ 1941-D MS-67 RD (NGC). Kennedy half dollars: ☆ 1967 MS-67 Deep Cameo SMS (PCGS) ☆ 1976-S Clad. Proof-69 Deep Cameo (PCGS) ☆ 1977-S Proof-69 Deep Cameo (PCGS) ☆ 1978-S Proof-69 Deep Cameo (PCGS). (Total: 8 pieces)
- 1539 Three certified coins**: ☆ 1865 nickel three cents. MS-63 (NGC) ☆ 1892 quarter. AU-55 (PCGS). Type II reverse ☆ 1917 quarter. Type I. MS-63 (NGC). All lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1540 Group of Mint State nickel-content coins**: 1865 three cents. MS-63 ☆ 1866 three cents. MS-63 ☆ 1867 five cents. Rays. MS-60 ☆ 1867 five cents. No Rays. MS-63 ☆ 1870 five cents. MS-60. A lustrous group of lightly toned coins. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 1541 Two dozen type coins**. Nickel three cents: ☆ 1866 AU-50 ☆ 1867 EF-40. Silver three cents: ☆ 1853 F-12 ☆ 1861 VF-30. Nickels: ☆ 1867 Rays. VF-30 ☆ 1869 EF-40 ☆ 1883 No CENTS (2). MS-62 and AU-55 ☆ 1913 Buffalo. Type I. AU-50 ☆ 1934 MS-63. Dimes: ☆ 1903 VF-30 ☆ 1914 VF-20 ☆ 1942 AU-50 ☆ 1945 MS-64. Quarters: ☆ 1901 AU-50 ☆ 1903 VF-30 ☆ 1930 AU-50, cleaned. Half dollars: ☆ 1904 VF-30 ☆ 1915-D VF-30 ☆ 1941 AU-50 ☆ 1945 AU-55. Dollars: ☆ 1881-O MS-60 ☆ 1922 (2). MS-60 and AU-58. (Total: 24 pieces)
- 1542 PCGS-certified 19th-century Proof threesome**: ☆ 1881 nickel three cents. Proof-64 ☆ 1862 silver three cents. Proof-62 ☆ 1881 five cents. Proof-64. A nice group. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1543 Pair of small silver type issues**: ☆ 1862/1 three cents. MS-60 ☆ 1870 half dime. MS-63. Both deeply toned. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1544 Selection of early 19th-century silver issues**, some with minor problems: ☆ 1832 half dime. Net VF-20; sharpness of AU-50 but scratched ☆ 1832 dime. Net F-15; sharpness of EF-40 but porous ☆ 1836 dime. VF-20 ☆ 1818 quarter. F-15 ☆ 1818/5 quarter. F-12 ☆ 1827 half dollar. VF-20 ☆ 1832 half dollar. Net F-12, EF-40, whizzed. (Total: 7 pieces)
- 1545 A silver quartette**: ☆ 1854 half dime. Arrows. MS-63 (NGC). Mottled gray toning ☆ 1954 Franklin half dollar. Proof-66 Cameo (NGC). Brilliant ☆ 1926-S Peace dollar. MS-64 (PCGS). Mottled opaque toning ☆ 1926-S Peace dollar. MS-63 (PCGS). Mottled toning on reverse. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1546 Selection of popular 19th-century silver issues**: ☆ 1859 half dime. EF-40 ☆ 1853-O dime. Arrows. VF-20 ☆ 1890-S dime. F-12 ☆ 1875-S 20 cents. VF-30 ☆ 1861 quarter. EF-40 ☆ 1891 quarter. EF-45 ☆ 1853 half dollar. Arrows and Rays. VF-30 ☆ 1859-O half dollar. VF-25. (Total: 8 pieces)
- 1547 Pair of ANACS-certified 19th-century Proof coins**: ☆ 1876 dime. Proof-63 ☆ 1884 quarter. Proof-62. Always popular due to its low mintage. Each is lightly toned. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1548 Pair of Barber issues**: ☆ 1902 dime. Proof-63 ☆ 1896 quarter. Net Proof-60; sharpness of Proof-62, polished. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1549 Two certified favorites**: ☆ 1907 dime. MS-63 (PCGS). Highly lustrous with attractive rose highlights ☆ 1936-S half dollar. MS-65 (ANACS). A satiny gem with a blush of pale champagne. A nice pair. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 1550 A trio of popular issues**, each PCGS certified: ☆ 1910 dime. MS-64. Frosty and lustrous ☆ 1920-D dime. MS-63. Brilliant with a nuance of rose ☆ 1924 quarter. MS-63. Pale rose highlights. Choice for the grade. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1551 Proof coin pair**, both PCGS certified: ☆ 1939 dime. Proof-65. Brilliant ☆ 1898 quarter. Proof-63. Pale lilac toning on frosty devices and mirror fields. A lovely cameo. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 1552 Four certified coins:** Dollars: ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers. 3rd reverse. MS-62 DPL (NGC) ☆ 1881-S MS-64 DMPL (PCGS) ☆ 1923-S MS-64 (PCGS). Commemorative half dollar: ☆ 1934 Texas. MS-65 (NGC). All are toned in varying degrees. A nice group. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1553 Golden pair:** ☆ 1858 gold dollar. Net VF-25; sharpness of VF-30. Reverse rim damage ☆ 1843-O \$2.50 Small Date. Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50. Scratch on Liberty's cheek.
- 1554 Certified gold coin threesome:** ☆ 1861 dollar. AU-58 (PCGS) ☆ 1843-O quarter eagle. EF-40 (PCI). Small Date, Crosslet 4 ☆ 1911 eagle. AU-58 (PCI). (Total: 3 pieces)
- 1555 Three quarter eagles and a half eagle.** Quarter eagles: ☆ 1853 AU-58 ☆ 1857 MS-60 ☆ 1925-D MS-62. Half eagle: ☆ 1840 Narrow Mill. EF-45. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 1556 Pair of popular gold issues:** ☆ 1907 Indian eagle. No Periods. AU-58 ☆ 1909/8 double eagle. AU-55. A scarce and popular overdate. (Total: 2 pieces)

CALIFORNIA SMALL DENOMINATION GOLD

- 1557 1869 Octagonal 25¢.** Breen Gillio-712. Rarity-6. Liberty Head. MS-65 (PCGS). A frosty example with olive highlights on lustrous surfaces. One of Frontier & Co.'s *Large Head* varieties. Reverse with circular bow.
- 1558 1871 Octagonal 25¢.** BG-714. Rarity-5. Liberty Head. MS-66 (PCGS). A lustrous prooflike gem (the PL designation is not noted on the holder) with deep cameo contrast between the fields and devices. Lovely olive toning adds to the overall appeal. Literally, about as nice as this issue can be found.

Rare 1871 Octagonal 25¢

BG-720, Rarity-7



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 1559 1871 Octagonal 25¢.** BG-720. Rarity-7. Liberty Head. MS-63 (PCGS). Prooflike, though not noted as such on the holder. Highly reflective fields and frosted devices exhibit warm olive highlights. A scarce and desirable issue, particularly when so finely preserved. A lovely coin for the assigned grade.
- 1560 1881 Octagonal 50¢.** BG-956. Rarity-5+. Indian Head. MS-65 (PCGS). Highly lustrous orange-gold surfaces. Deeply prooflike with strong cameo contrast on both sides. Die State II, upper right leaf tip now curled, die cracks at left of wreath, fraction, and DOLLAR.
- 1561 1875 Octagonal \$1.** BG-1127. Rarity-5. Indian Head. MS-63 (PCGS). Rich yellow-gold iridescence on both sides serves to highlight the heavy cameo contrast. Outstanding gem quality, within the context of the grade, of course. A few tiny reverse planchet laminations, as struck, probably account for the assigned grade; this specimen is certainly choice for the grade.

NUMISMATIC AMERICANA

- 1562 1834 Hard Times token.** HT-9, Low-8. Andrew Jackson, MY THIRD HEAT. MS-63 BN. Copper. Plain edge. Deep chocolate brown with a trace of red in the recessed areas. Small bust of Jackson, politically satirical statements on the obverse, running boar, MY THIRD HEAT on the reverse. A pleasing specimen.

- 1563 1837 Hard Times token.** HT-294, L-98. MERCHANTS EXCHANGE/ No. 6 TONTINE BUILDING. MS-63 RB. Copper. Plain edge. Lustrous medium brown with a whisper of pale red in the protected areas.

From the personal collection of Commodore Matthew C. Perry, one of the most important names in United States Naval history, and also one of the earliest serious collectors of things numismatic in our country. Accompanied by its envelope, which was handwritten by Lyman H. Low in 1898, when his firm appraised Perry's collection for the August Belmont family of New York City. Belmont married Perry's daughter Caroline in 1849; upon Perry's death in 1858, the coins became the property of Caroline Slidell Perry Belmont, and were passed on through the Belmont family for generations.

From our sale of the Commodore Matthew C. Perry Collection, January 1995, Lot 616.

- 1564 Civil War token.** Fuld 46-335. Rarity-9. Over copper-nickel Indian cent. MS-64. By Horter. Brilliant and lustrous with full strike. Small carbon spot on reverse at 1:00. The shield-type U.S. copper-nickel Indian cent is clearly visible on the reverse.

From our sale of the Rogers M. Fred, Jr. and Peter A. Ward, M.D. Collections, November 1995, Lot 1199.

- 1565 Civil War token.** Fuld 46-335. Rarity-7. Silver. MS-64. By Horter. Soft brownish gray toning over both surfaces. The reverse is slightly off center with a small planchet rim defect.

From our sale of the Rogers M. Fred, Jr. and Peter A. Ward, M.D. Collections, November 1995, Lot 1200. Earlier from our sale of the Bridgeton Collection Sale, December 1980, Lot 1188.

- 1566 Civil War token.** Fuld 53-336. Rarity-8. Silver. MS-60. By Horter. An attractive mixture of gold, gray, and brown toning over both surfaces.

From our sale of the Rogers M. Fred, Jr. and Peter A. Ward, M.D. Collections, November 1995, Lot 1201.

- 1567 Civil War token.** Fuld 146-283. Rarity-8. German silver. MS-65. By Rhode Island sinker. Amazing strike. All other tokens by these dies are Rarity-9.

Die 283 with eagle and anchor is similar to the design of the Civil War army buttons manufactured by Scovill, an example of how die engravers would copy popular designs of other die sinkers.

The slogan "Rhode Island First in the Field" is often misinterpreted to mean that the state was the first to be admitted to the Union and hence the first star in the field of the flag. This honor however belongs to the state of Delaware. The slogan actually reflects Rhode Island Volunteers being the first state militia to go into the field against the Confederate forces. The head of state volunteers was Col. Ambrose Burnside who was to become commander of the Army of the Potomac after Lincoln relieved George McClellan of that command in November 1862. Burnside, who appears on Fuld die 146, was a poor military leader, but was a successful politician after the war. He became governor of Rhode Island and later a U.S. senator.

From our sale of the Rogers M. Fred, Jr. and Peter A. Ward, M.D. Collections, November 1995, Lot 1213.

END OF SESSION

SESSION TWO

Sunday Evening, May 30, 6:00 PM Sharp

United States Coins: Lots 2001-2502

Pattern Coins: Lots 2503-2513

Territorial Gold Coins: Lots 2514-2518

HALF DIMES

Our offering of half dimes is truly remarkable, truly outstanding, and emphasizes the early part of the series, 1794 through 1805. Half dimes of this era are seen infrequently. Thus, it is a special pleasure to note the extensive listing of early dates by die varieties, commencing with the very first, Valentine-1, and continuing from there.

Half dimes have long been favorites with numismatists, with Harold P. Newlin writing a monograph on the series in 1883, setting the stage for later studies by Will W. Neil, D.W. Valentine, and Walter Breen, among others. A new book on half dimes is being prepared by members of the John Reich Society and will no doubt be enthusiastically received when it is available (appropriate announcements will be made in our publications).

Desirable 1794 Half Dime

Valentine-1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2001 1794 Valentine-1. Rarity-6. VF-30. A well-centered impression with dark gray patina in the fields, lighter on the devices. A few minor scratches are noted, as are other insignificant abrasions. Despite these impairments, this is a very pleasing example that is expected to gain the respect of both variety specialists and date collectors. For the type collector, this example is not only the first year of issue, but the first variety in the emission sequence. Therefore, it is truly the first issue of the design.

Both dies appear to be perfect, however, a long spike extends the border dentil between A and M.

Interestingly, although several varieties of half dimes bear the 1794 date, coins of this denomination were not struck until early 1795.

Pleasing 1794 Half Dime

Valentine-2



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2002 1794 V-2. Rarity-5. VF-25. A very attractive example of this first-year coinage issue, sharply struck in the context of the assigned grade. Light golden gray patina in the field surrounds lighter devices. A few minor surface marks and scratches are noted, consistent with the grade level. Although the coin has some problems, overall it is a very pleasing example.

Struck from perfect dies.

Scarce 1794 Half Dime

Valentine-3



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2003 1794 V-3. Rarity-5. VF-20. Desirable pale gray and steel blue toning with ivory devices. This is a very nice example at the grade level with nearly pristine surfaces, save for only a few microscopic abrasions. This is a scarce variety, currently listed as Rarity-5, however, possibly High Rarity-4, the lower rating suggested as more and more collectors and dealers are looking carefully at these early issues.

Die state equivalent to Eliasberg:886. The obverse has a crack from the border at 9:00 through star 6 and the hair strands, to the E of LIBERTY and on to the border at 12:00.

Attractive 1794 Half Dime

Valentine-4



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2004 1794 V-4. Rarity-4. VF-20.** Light golden gray patina in the fields with lighter ivory devices. Aside from two small scratches on Miss Liberty's face, the surfaces are choice for this grade level. A rather scarce variety, the final 1794-dated variety, struck sometime in 1795. Valentine-1 and 10 of 1795 share the same reverse die, with both of those known perfect, an *earlier* die state than on this 1794-dated example.

Die state equivalent to Eliasberg:887.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2005 1795 V-2. Rarity-5. VF-25.** Medium gray, lighter on the devices, with slightly finer sharpness; a few minor scratches are noted on both surfaces. A pleasing example of this scarce Flowing Hair half dime variety.

Struck from perfect dies.

Attractive 1795 Half Dime

Valentine-3 Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2006 1795 V-3. Rarity-6. EF-40.** Light gray accented by pale gold toning. Although a few minor hairlines are noted, probably from a long ago cleaning, the overall appeal is high. A very small edge impairment is noted and may be the result of a clipped planchet. We see no raised metal on the obverse and reverse, typical of coins that have post-strike edge dents. This is a very scarce, perhaps rare, variety, with just a small number surviving.

The obverse has a very distinctive retained cud through stars 11 to 14 on the right. This is the beginning stage of a rim break, prior to the die segment falling away.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2007 1795 V-4. Rarity-3. VF-30 (PCGS).** An attractive example with deep gray toning, blended with olive and gold. Other than two short scratches in the obverse fields, there are no defects of note. A desirable example for the type or date collector, or for the specialist who has not found an example of this variety.

A rim break is noted above TY and star 9, rendered partly invisible by the edge of the certification holder.

- 2008 Group of four half dimes:** ☆ 1795 V-4. Rarity-4. Net AG-3, sharpness of F-12, with portion of the rim at BER in LIBERTY missing, probably due to the removal of a mount; depression at the area of Liberty's ear caused by several small punchmarks ☆ 1829 V-5, Rarity-6. AU-58. Sharply struck ☆ 1837 Small Date. EF-45 ☆ 1838 Normal Stars. AU-50. An interesting group. (Total: 4 pieces)



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2009 1795 V-5. Rarity-3. F-15.** Medium gray, and lighter on the highest points. A few minor impairments are noted, however, not significant enough to require net grading, in our opinion. Most edge reeding is absent, yet we see no evidence of damage. Not as scarce as most other 1795 half dimes, thus a perfect candidate for the type collector.

Struck from perfect dies, as best we can determine, given the lower condition of this example.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2010 1795 V-6. Rarity-4. VF-35.** Dark brownish gray surfaces with a trace of amber, lilac, and blue. A highly desirable example with very pleasing surfaces.

Light clash marks are noted on both obverse and reverse, along with a die crack from the obverse border, through Y, to the bridge of Liberty's nose.

Desirable 1795 Half Dime Rarity

Valentine-7, Rarity-6



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2011 1795 V-7. Rarity-6. VF-25. Light gray with gold accents framing the devices in a most attractive manner. A few minor surface marks are noted, however, none require individual description.

A light die crack through the date is especially prominent between the tops of the digits 9 and 5.

Pleasing 1796 Half Dime

Popular LIKERTY Variation



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2014 1796 V-1. Rarity-3. LIKERTY. VF-30. Light ivory surfaces with bluish green and pale gold highlighting the obverse devices. The reverse is untuned. Other than a few very faint hairlines, the surfaces are nearly pristine. This is a very attractive example.

Die state equivalent to Eliasberg:894.

Important 1795 Half Dime Variety

Valentine-8, Rarity-6



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2012 1795 V-8. Rarity-6. EF-40. A very pleasing example of this rare variety with steel gray toning highlighted by lighter brown and faint traces of teal on the reverse. Light adjustment marks are present on the obverse, as illustrated, and a small scrape is visible in the left obverse field.

A bisecting obverse crack from the border extends between TY to Miss Liberty's forehead, continuing through the hair, exiting at the point of the lowest curl to the border just below star 1.

From our sale of the Burhop and Davis Collections, September 1996, Lot 334.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2015 1796/5 V-2. Rarity-6. F-12. Medium gray surfaces frame ivory devices; a very pleasing circulated example of this popular overdate variety. B. Max Mehl was fond of describing 1805/4 half dollars as the closest thing to a real 1804 half dollar! In a similar vein, this is as close as you will come to a 1795 Draped Bust half dime, another coin that does not exist in non-overdate form.

The obverse is perfect. The reverse has a thin bisecting die crack.

This represents the earliest year for an overdated coin in the American series (overdates of 1796/5 were made for \$5 coins as well).

Important 1797 Half Dime

Valentine-1, 13 Stars



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2016 1797 V-1. Rarity-6. 13 Stars. VF-35. Medium gray with splashes of golden rose, especially on the reverse. A most attractive example of this important type issue, with just a few minor scratches and defects. Half dimes of this coinage year were issued with obverse arrangements including 13 stars, 15 stars, or 16 stars. A point to ponder: why the three different star counts? The 16-star obverse is easy, as Tennessee joined the Union in 1796 as the 16th state. Perhaps the 13-star obverse was issued later, after the Mint decided that stars could not be

Rare 1795 Valentine-9 Half Dime



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2013 1795 V-9. Rarity-6. F-15. Dark gray fields surround lighter gray devices with minor porosity noted on both obverse and reverse. Moderate surface marks and other abrasions are noted, including some slight bruises on the edge. The edge reeding is only partially visible.

Struck from perfect dies as best we can determine, however, some minor clash marks may be present on the reverse.

added continually, as new states were added. The 1797-dated obverse with 15 stars is not easily explained. Perhaps the engraver was opposed to the admission of Tennessee to the United States. Most likely, the die was made early in 1796 without the final digit, which was placed in the die just prior to use in 1797.

Perfect dies.

Desirable 1797 Half Dime

15 Stars



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2017 1797 V-2. Rarity-3. 15 Stars. VF-30. A very pleasing example with light gray surfaces and a few very minor abrasions. Some central weakness is noted, typical of most examples from these dies. The deepest recesses of each die were at the center, and when the dies came together there was insufficient metal available to fully define the design details in the deepest areas.

Light reverse clash marks are present.

Attractive 1797 Half Dime

16 Stars



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2018 1797 V-3. Rarity-5. 16 Stars. VF-20. A very pleasing medium gray example with a light obverse scratch and a few other minor impairments. Only partial edge reeding remains visible.

Light clash marks are visible on both sides. The obverse has thin die cracks between stars 7 and 8, and these appear to mark the beginning stages of a rim break at this position.

Impressive 1797 Half Dime

16 Stars



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2019 1797 V-4. Rarity-4. 16 Stars. VF-30. The devices are light ivory, with medium gray fields and darker steel at the peripheries. Very minor surface roughness is noted, however, the overall appeal is quite high. A very light scratch crosses the center of the obverse. Central weakness is noted.

The obverse has two light cracks at stars 7 and 8, as on the previous lot. The reverse has several die cracks and both surfaces show heavy clash marks. Die state similar to Eliasberg:899.

In the 1960s when James F. Ruddy was doing research for his *Photograde* book he found that examples of the 1796-1797 half dime in various worn grades were among the most difficult to locate for photographic purposes.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2020 1800 V-1. Rarity-3. VF-30. Light pewter surfaces with a few microscopic hairline scratches. Sharply struck with strong central details. A very pleasing example, ideal for the date or type collector. This is the first issue of the Draped Bust design with Heraldic Eagle on the reverse. Among silver coins, this design combination made its debut in 1798 for silver dollars and dimes, in 1800 for half dimes, in 1801 for half dollars, and in 1804 for quarters.

Perfect dies.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2021 1800 V-2. Rarity-4. LIBEKT. VF-25. A superb example at this grade level with steel blue toning and light ivory on the highest points. The well-centered impression is slightly weak, only at the central-most portion of obverse and reverse. A tiny rim nick is noted above T of LIBERTY, otherwise virtually flawless. This is a popular variety with the top of R in LIBERTY missing, resembling the letter K.

Perfect dies.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2022 1800 V-3. Rarity-7. Net F-12; sharpness of EF-40, holed and plugged with a few heavy dents causing a slight bend. Dark steel is blended with grayish brown. Two prominent dents are noted in front of Miss Liberty's chin, and at the left top of her head, below B in LIBERTY. A rare variety of great importance to the variety specialist.

1801 Half Dime

Early Die State



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2023 1801 V-1. Rarity-4. VF-25. Light ivory is mixed with amber and lilac in a most attractive manner. A very pleasing example of this scarce date.

Perfect obverse die without clash marks, cracks, breaks, or other die damage. This is State A. Die states A through E in the Reiver-Price study have formerly been considered the Valentine-1 variety. States F through H comprise the Valentine-2 variety.

The half dimes of 1801 have provided one of the most challenging and interesting mysteries of any early American coinage issue. The pioneering reference on the early half dimes was written by Harold Newlin and published in 1883. Newlin described just one die variety of this year. Almost 50 years later, in 1931, Daniel Valentine finished the current standard reference on the series, describing two varieties. These two varieties were also recorded by Walter Breen in his 1958 supplement. A third variety was discovered by collector Eric Gutcher and is now known as Valentine-3.

The confusion surrounding Valentine-1 and Valentine-2 involves a large area of die damage among all stars on the right side of the obverse. This appears to be a retained cud, the beginnings of a massive rim break. In the intermediate die state, as illustrated in the next lot, this characteristic is quite prominent. In the following lot, a late die state example, the massive damage on the right side of the obverse disappears, however, a rim break below the drapery then appears. It was not possible to explain how one "die break" could disappear while another developed, thus, the earlier authors assumed two different obverse dies were involved, thus two die varieties.

Early coinage collector and student Jules Reiver has studied these coins for a number of years, and published several articles in the late 1980s regarding the confusion that existed. At the time, Jules was even bold enough to suggest that the two varieties, V-1 and V-2, might be the same. Jules conducted further research along with Ed Price, examining multiple examples over several years. In the July 1998 issue of the *John Reich Journal*, Reiver and Price submitted the results of their research in "1801 Half Dimes Revisited." They concluded that the same die combination was used to produce both the V-1 and V-2 varieties, with the differences being the result of die lapping or polishing. They included die state information, listing eight distinct states of the obverse die, and illustrated seven of these eight.

1801 Half Dime

Intermediate Die State



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2024 1801 V-1. Rarity-4. VF-25. Medium brownish gray with lighter pewter highlights. Very slight porosity is noted on otherwise mark-free surfaces. An aesthetically pleasing example of this scarce coinage issue.

Intermediate die state with die damage through Y of LIBERTY and encompassing all stars on the right. Die state D in the recent study of 1801 half dimes discussed in the previous lot. Die clash marks are visible around the date and devices, and the dentils are crumbling (tiny rim breaks) over stars 9 through 12. This is a late die state of the former Valentine-1 variety. The most prominent feature of this die state is the severe die damage that looks like a retained cud. This die damage appears as a raised section of the coin, from the border through the right arm of Y, arcing down the right field just inside the star points, and finally to the border at star 13. While examining this coin, keep in mind that a raised section of the coin is translated from a lower, or sunken, section of the die.

1801 Half Dime

Late Die State



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2025 1801 V-1. Rarity-4. F-15. Light gray with pewter highlights. Very minor hairline scratches are noted, along with a few minor marks on obverse and reverse rims. This die state, discussed below, is one of three die states formerly described as Valentine-2.

The die damage of the previous lot is not evident, however, a small rim break is noted below the drapery, right of the date. This is die state G in the Reiver-Price study. The heavy die damage described in the previous lot is now gone, the obverse die being lapped to repair this. The rim crumbling at stars 9 through 12 has advanced. A rim break has developed below the drapery, right of the date, and the die shows crumbling from the border through TY to Miss Liberty's head. Throughout all of these die states, the reverse die has remained relatively stable.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2026 1803 V-1. Rarity-4. Large 8. VF-30.** Medium gray surfaces are highlighted by lighter pewter on the higher points of the devices. Russet and blue toning add to the overall appeal. The surfaces are quite pleasing with only a few very minor impairments, primarily on the reverse.

Perfect obverse, lapped reverse with berries missing and shallow overall relief.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2027 1803 V-2. Rarity-3. Large 8. VF-30.** Light gray is blended nicely with dark steel toward the borders. Minor marks are visible, including a couple reverse scratches. Overall, very pleasing, despite microscopic porosity.

Perfect dies except for a few very small die rust spots.

Important 1803 Small 8 Half Dime

Valentine Plate Coin — Breen Plate Coin



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2028 1803 V-3. Rarity-6. Small 8. EF-45 (NGC).** Very light silver gray with amber and russet toning. A few minor scratches are visible on the reverse. This coin was used by Daniel Valentine to illustrate his book on half dimes. Only the obverse is plated and is identified easily by a small mark on the rim between stars 2 and 3. Both obverse and reverse of this coin were illustrated in *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*, on page 280 for his variety number 2979. This coin is illustrated immediately below the description for this variety. This is a scarce variety and desirable as the only die variety with a Small 8 in the date, important not only for advanced variety specialists, but for those who collect by date and by a simpler set of varieties (such as listed in the *Guide Book*).

The obverse has a prominent rim break (or cud) joining the rim and the drapery right of the date. This is very similar in position to the rim break sometimes found on 1801 half dimes.

From our sale of the Greenwich Collection, January 1991, Lot 410. Accompanied by an NGC "Photo-Proof" certificate.

Pleasing 1803 Small 8 Half Dime

From the Eliasberg Collection



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2029 1803 V-3. Rarity-6. Small 8. VF-25 (PCGS).** A very pleasing example with light silver gray, amber, and pale blue. All details are sharp, except where obscured by light wear.

Perfect dies and quite rare as such. Most examples, such as the next lot, have a rim break under the bust.

From our sale of the Eliasberg Collection, May 1996, Lot 906. Purchased by John M. Clapp from the Chapman Brothers' sale of the E.S. Norris, Esq. Collection, May 17, 1894, Lot 441. The consignor has provided a copy of this Chapman catalogue, and a photocopy of the Clapp notebook, indicating the pedigree of this coin.

Scarce 1805 Half Dime



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2030 1805 V-1. Rarity-4. VF-30.** Charcoal gray with ivory devices, accented by steel blue toning. A lovely example with only a few very minor imperfections including some faint hairlines. The end of the bust and corresponding point of the reverse are weak, typical of virtually all genuine examples of this issue.

Perfect dies.

This ends one of the most extensive listings of half dimes by specialized die varieties to ever appear in any auction catalogue.

Superb Gem 1830 Half Dime



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2031 1830 V-1. Rarity-3. MS-67 (PCGS).** A superb, frosty gem example. Both sides are fully brilliant and exhibit boldly lustrous surfaces. The stars, legends, and all central design details are sharply defined, and no visible surface defects are noted. Variety with the C in AMERICA punched over a horizontal C, an

interesting mint blunder. This piece would be difficult to improve upon in terms of quality making it an important opportunity for a collector of high-quality type coins.

- 2032** 1830 V-11. Rarity-4. MS-63 (PCGS). Well struck with nice strong design elements. Rose and gold toning on the obverse, while the reverse remains mostly silvery gray. Soft lustre is evident.

- 2033** 1831 V-5. MS-63. Lustrous silver gray with a touch of rose. Satiny surfaces support nicely struck design elements.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2034** 1835 V-3a. Rarity-3. MS-64 (ANACS). Light pastel blue, rose, and violet iridescence graces the satiny obverse, while the reverse is bright gold at the center, turning to electric blue at the rims. Nicely struck and choice for the grade.

- 2035** Liberty Seated half dime quintette: ☆ 1837 No Stars, Small Date. AU-50 ☆ 1853 Arrows. AU-58 ☆ 1854 Arrows. AU-55 ☆ 1857-O AU-58 ☆ 1868-S AU-58. A nice group. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 2036** Half dime pair ☆ 1838 Large Stars. MS-63. Light blue-green and rose toning, particularly on the reverse ☆ 1862 Proof-62. A very noticeable die clash is seen at the center of the reverse. Interesting and quite unusual. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 2037** Three MS-63 Liberty Seated half dimes: ☆ 1839 ☆ 1860-O ☆ 1862. A nice grouping. (Total: 3 pieces)

Gem 1851-O Half Dime

Among Finest Known



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2038** 1851-O MS-66 (NGC). A gorgeous gem specimen with light golden rose, blue, and ivory toning. Sharply struck in all details, save for very slight weakness among the upper left leaves. Slightly reflective fields with cameo devices. Very similar in appearance and quality to the Eliasberg Collection coin, although the toning pattern is slightly different. This and the Eliasberg coin may be the two finest known examples.

Date numerals are high with the tops of 1, 5, and 1 each lightly touching the base, the digit 8 just missing. Parallel die lines from the border pass through star 9.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2039** 1856-O MS-64 (NGC). An amalgam of rich blue and rose toning graces the frosty surfaces of this popular branch mint issue. Surprisingly scarce in Mint State despite a mintage of 1.1 million pieces.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2040** 1857 MS-65. A frosty and lustrous golden gray specimen with a hint of iridescent sea green present. Scarce so fine.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2041** 1858 MS-65 (NGC). Pale sky blue and heather toning on prooflike surfaces. Struck from clashed dies.

- 2042** 1859 MS-64 (NGC). A lustrous and richly toned steel gray example of the date.

The dies for the 1859 half dime, said to be by Anthony Paquet, differ slightly from the obverse dies of 1838-1858. Among the immediately noticeable variations are hollow star points and slimmer arms on Miss Liberty. LIBERTY appears in larger letters on the obverse, and certain other minor differences (star positions among them) become apparent when examples of the date are studied closely. This "Paquet style" was struck only at Philadelphia in 1859, not at New Orleans (the other mint making half dimes this year), and had no counterparts among other Liberty Seated denominations. Thus, it is an anomaly, a curiosity.

- 2043** Certified half dime pair: ☆ 1860 MS-64 (NGC). Breen-3099. Repunched 1 and 0 in date, called "rare" in Breen's *Encyclopedia* ☆ 1862 Proof-62 (PCGS). Both are richly toned. (Total: 2 pieces)



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2044 1863 Breen-3106. Repunched 18. MS-64 (PCGS). A satiny and lustrous pale lilac-gray specimen. Sharply struck and aesthetically appealing. Just 18, 000 business strikes of this date were produced.

DIMES

Our offering of dimes commences with an 1821 Capped Bust issue and continues to include two examples of the scarce 1873-CC, a number of desirable "type" coins, a highly important 1886-S, and the ever-popular and elusive 1916-D, among others.

Rare 1821 Dime

John Reich-2



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2045 1821 John Reich-2. Rarity-7. Large Date. MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous and satiny surfaces enhanced by halos of russet and iridescent blue which give way to pale rose at the centers. A well-struck example with bold design details in Miss Liberty's curls and the feathers of the eagle. All of the noted cracks are plainly visible, as well as the bulge in the left obverse field; apparently the result of die failure. The reverse is not known with defects, but this example does show a tiny break from one leaf to the nearest denticle. Unfinished die work is noted in and around the lower reverse devices, especially rough at the arrow heads and shafts. This was likely not visible on the worn specimens previously studied by the authors of the John Reich reference, which reports that the finest they had seen at the time of publication was a VF-25. Clearly this present specimen is a candidate for the finest known category, and is very important as such. An opportunity for the advanced collector of early dimes. A very rare variety of this date.

2046 1831 JR-5. MS-61. Sharply struck with nearly complete lustre, the obverse subdued by faint blue toning, the reverse brilliant. Light clash marks are visible in the form of vertical bars from the earlobe, these being from the reverse shield.

2047 1834 JR-7. MS-62. An attractive, lustrous coin with bright gold and blue obverse toning, deeper russet, teal, and blue on the reverse. This wonderful coin deserves to find a loving home with the date or type collector, or perhaps with the variety specialist.

2048 A selection of dimes: ☆ 1831 JR-1. Rarity-1. AU-50. Light peripheral toning ☆ 1841 AU-58. Iridescent blue and golden toning on the peripheries ☆ 1853 Arrows. AU-50. A well-struck example ☆ 1887 Proof-63 with iridescent blue peripheral toning fading to a rose hue at the centers ☆ 1897 MS-63. Lightly toned. An interesting group. (Total: 5 pieces)

2049 Early Liberty Seated dime duo: ☆ 1837 No Stars, Large Date. EF-40 ☆ 1842-O EF-45. (Total: 2 pieces)

2050 Pair of Liberty Seated dimes, both MS-60: ☆ 1839 ☆ 1839-O. Two lovely iridescent gray specimens. (Total: 2 pieces)

2051 No Lot.

2052 No Lot.

Elusive 1873-S Arrows Dime

Mint State-64



- 2053 1873-S Arrows. MS-64 (NGC).** Flashes of silver brilliance mingle nicely with rich golden highlights on the surfaces of this lustrous coin. Nicely struck. Considerably scarcer than its mintage of 455,000 pieces indicates, particularly where Mint State specimens are concerned.

NGC Census: 7; 1 finer (MS-66).

Regarding the rarity of this date in Uncirculated grades, it is interesting to point out that PCGS and NGC, combined, have only graded 33 examples of the date at MS-60 or finer. Of those graded, only *two* examples of the date were *higher* than MS-64, those being a single MS-65 specimen, and a solitary MS-66 coin!



- 2054 1876-S MS-65 (NGC).** A glittering silver gem with a touch of pale golden toning on frosty devices and prooflike fields. Well struck in virtually all areas. Scarce so fine.

NGC Census: 10; 4 finer (MS-67 finest).

From David Akers's sale of the Pittman Collection, October 1997, Lot 659.

- 2055 1877 Proof-64.** A beautiful cameo Proof with heavily frosty devices. A very faint trace of champagne toning is visible at the right obverse border.

- 2056 Mint State Liberty Seated dimes, all brilliant unless noted:** ☆ 1877 MS-60 ☆ 1884 MS-60 ☆ 1887 MS-63 ☆ 1891 MS-63. Pale golden highlights. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 2057 1883 Proof-63.** Sharply struck with attractive light ivory surfaces and moderate cameo contrast. A desirable issue for your type set.

- 2058 NGC-certified dime pair:** ☆ 1883 MS-64 ☆ 1931-D MS-65. Both are toned. (Total: 2 pieces)



- 2059 1884 MS-65 (NGC).** A lustrous matte-like golden gray specimen with a splash of electric blue on each side.

- 2060 1885 Proof-63.** A desirable cameo Proof with light gold toning. Quite sharply struck with minimal hairlines. This is a very attractive example for the date or type collector.

- 2061 1886 MS-64.** Frosty bright silver lustre with sharp design details. Russet and blue toning is splashed on the reverse.

Important Gem 1886-S 10¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2062 1886-S MS-66 (PCGS).** Frosty silver centers and high points with rich lavender and gold near the rims and among the devices. Superb cartwheel lustre on both sides makes for an enchanting combination of beauty and quality. Ahwash-2. "Filled" S mintmark. A rare date in Uncirculated grade.

PCGS Population: 2; 3 finer (MS-67).

Careful examination (under a 30X scope) of the mintmark area reveals that the "filled" S variety (mentioned by both Ahwash and Greer, but not Breen) may actually be a Large S over Small S variety similar to that of the 1890-S variety. Smaller serifs seem to protrude from the serifs of the S mintmark on this coin, and there is a small curved bar of metal that seemingly corresponds to the curves of an S within the upper and lower loop of the existing S.

- 2063 1888 Proof-64 (NGC).** Frosty motifs and mirror fields exhibit a touch of pale lavender toning. One of 832 Proofs of the date produced.

- 2064 Pair of 1888 dimes, one MS-64, the other MS-63.** One is deeply toned, the other is brilliant. (Total: 2 pieces)



- 2065 1889-S MS-64 (NGC).** Mainly brilliant with a whisper of lilac toning. Somewhat prooflike. Fairly scarce in Mint State despite a sizeable mintage of nearly one million pieces.

NGC Census: 6; 5 finer (MS-66 finest).

- 2066 1895 Barber. MS-60.** Sharply struck with lilac and teal toning over satiny lustre. A very attractive coin for the grade level, and a scarce date as well.

Of all Philadelphia Mint Barber dimes struck from 1892 to 1916, the 1895 recorded the lowest mintage and is the scarcest today. At the Mint State level as offered here pieces are *rare*.

- 2067 Selection of attractive Barber dimes:** ☆ 1898 MS-62 ☆ 1899 MS-60 ☆ 1908-S AU-55 ☆ 1910 MS-60 ☆ 1910-D MS-62 ☆ 1911 MS-61 ☆ 1914 MS-60 ☆ 1914-S AU-58 ☆ 1916 MS-60. Some are brilliant, others are toned. A nice group overall. (Total: 9 pieces)

- 2068 Mint State Barber dime foursome:** ☆ 1899 MS-64 ☆ 1905 MS-63 ☆ 1906 MS-63 ☆ 1912 MS-63. All are lustrous with a whisper of pale golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 2069 1908-O MS-62.** An attractive coin with satiny lustre and faint rose toning with bright blue and amber at the borders. Especially sharp strike for a New Orleans Mint product.

2070 1914 Proof-61 (ANACS). Mirror fields and lightly frosted devices exhibit splashes of deep bluish gray. One of only 425 Proofs of the date minted, the lowest Proof mintage figure in the Barber dime series (1892-1915).

2071 Certified dime trio: ☆ 1914-D MS-64 (PCGS) ☆ 1941-S MS-67 FB (PCGS) ☆ 1944-D MS-67 FB (NGC). All are lustrous with a hint of pale gold. (Total: 3 pieces)

Desirable 1916-D Mercury Dime

Important Key Date



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2072 1916-D AU-50 (PCGS). This is a very pleasing, lightly circulated example of this key-date issue, the scarcest Mercury dime. Mostly brilliant frosty lustre with a trace light gray toning. A few small surface marks are present. This date is always in demand, especially at high circulated grade levels such as presently offered. Just 264,000 coins were minted, the lowest of this design. In second place is the 1921-D, with a mintage in excess of one million coins!

Although this is from the first year of issue and normally might have been saved in larger quantities than usual, such was not the case, and nearly all 1916-D dimes slipped into circulation. The actual pattern of distribution is not known, but perhaps the Denver Mint coins were distributed later than the Philadelphia and San Francisco coins, by which time they were no longer a novelty. Wayne Miller has suggested that a number of the 1916-D dimes were probably originally distributed in Montana.



2073 1918-D MS-66 PL. Satiny surfaces display intense cartwheel lustre. A blazing gem specimen of an early Denver Mint dime. Tied for finest certified by PCGS, and fairly important as such.

PCGS Population: 6; none finer.

2074 1921-D EF-40. Brilliant, lightly worn surfaces with a trace of extremely faint champagne toning. This is the second rarest dime in the Mercury series, with the second lowest mintage.



2075 1923-S MS-65 (PCGS). A sharp and frosty specimen with a whisper of rose toning on satiny surfaces. Nearly full band details on the reverse. A scarce and popular San Francisco Mint issue in gem Mint State.

PCGS Population: 12; 1 finer (MS-66).

2076 1924-D MS-64 (PCGS). A very pleasing example of this scarce issue, with creamy white lustre. Quite sharply struck even though the central bands are weak.

TWENTY-CENT PIECES

2077 1875 MS-61 PL. A distinctly prooflike specimen with a touch of gold and rose toning on deeply mirrored fields and frosted motifs. An attractive coin for the grade.

Choice Proof 1878 20¢

Proof-Only Date



2078 1878 Proof-63 (PCGS). Deep gunmetal-blue with some rose iridescence at the center of the reverse. A choice example of this proof-only date, the final issue in this short-lived series (1875-1878).

There really is only *one variety* of the 20-cent piece with regard to issues that saw any degree of circulation—and that is the 1875-S. Other business strikes of 1875 and 1876 were made in much smaller numbers and are quite scarce today. Proofs were made for collectors until 1878, with the last two years, 1877 and 1878, not being available in related business strike form.

QUARTER DOLLARS

Lovely Mint State 1805 Quarter

Browning-3, Rarity-4
Condition Census



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2079 1805 Browning-3. Rarity-4. MS-64 (NGC). A lovely coin with lightly reflective fields and deep toning. Very light lilac at the center of both obverse and reverse is framed by attractive teal around the borders. Slight weakness is noted at the high points of the obverse, including Miss Liberty's shoulder and highest hair waves. A die crack from the border extends through the lower points of star 4, into the field. The reverse has light clash marks.

2080 1807 B-2. Rarity-3. VF-20. Medium slate gray with lighter high points and some blue toning at the rims. The final date of Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle quarter dollar coinage, and the last coinage of the denomination until 1815.

2081 1828 B-3. Rarity-3. 25 over 50c. VF-25 (PCGS). Medium slate gray with some deep brown on the obverse. The repunched denomination is plainly evident on the reverse. This die, first used to strike quarters dated 1822, then saved at the Mint and used years later in 1828, is one of the most popular and most interesting blundered dies in the American series.

The engraver of this die evidently let his mind wander; he punched the denomination as 50C on the reverse. Realizing his error, he then repunched the numerals in the denomination as 25 without much effort to efface the erroneous 50, hence the underlying numerals are readily visible today, even under low magnification.

2082 1831 B-4. Small Letters. Net AU-55; sharpness of MS-62, polished. Now beginning to reacquire attractive light gold toning. A few darker toning spots are noted on the obverse. Very sharply struck and resembling a *Proof* at first glance. The reverse has a die crack from the border at 5:30, through the right side of C to the stem.

Lustrous 1835 Quarter Dollar

Late Die State of Browning-5



2083 1835 B-5. Rarity-3. MS-64 (NGC). Fully brilliant with soft frosty lustre. Very sharply struck with every detail boldly defined. This is a scarce variety with fewer than a dozen Mint State examples known, to the best of our knowledge. The present example is certainly one of the very finest among these survivors. From a late state of the dies, as noted below. An interesting feature, not mentioned by Ard Browning in 1925 or by Walter Breen in the 1992 revision of Browning's work, is the blundered reverse die. Several letters in the legend, particularly ES OF AM, are sharply recut with the original impression up to one-half millimeter left of the final position. In fact, the O in OF appears to be triple punched, with an impression left of the final position, and extra "ears" below the left and right of this letter.

Three prominent obverse die cracks are fully developed: (1) a bisecting crack extends from border to border, passing through a point of star 6, Miss Liberty's temple and hair curls, through RT in LIBERTY, a corner of the cap, the right field and the center of star 10; (2) a crack from the border at 7:00 extends through the drapery, Miss Liberty's hair curl over the clasp and her neck, eventually joining the first crack right of her eye; (3) a crack through star 3 joins Miss Liberty's nose, eventually also reaching the first crack right of her eye. The reverse die has light clash marks.

2084 AU-58 Liberty Seated quarter threesome: ☆ 1841 ☆ 1876-S. Deeply toned ☆ 1877. A nice group. (Total: 3 pieces)

2085 Selection of quarters: ☆ 1853 Arrows and Rays. AU-53. Very lightly toned ☆ 1877-CC. AU-58. Lightly toned. Quite well struck for this issue ☆ 1893 AU-55. Blue and reddish gold toning ☆ 1917 Type I. AU-58, cleaned. A nice group of high-grade circulated type coins. (Total: 4 pieces)

2086 Pair of Liberty Seated quarters: ☆ 1854 Arrows. AU-50. Interesting die cracks on both obverse and reverse ☆ 1861 MS-60. Light rose and blue-gray toning. (Total: 2 pieces)

Immaculate Gem 1854-O Quarter Dollar

Finest Known
The Eliasberg Coin



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2087 1854-O With Arrows. MS-67 (NGC).** Superb satiny ivory lustre with mottled golden brown, light blue, and pale lilac toning. Sharply struck with all details, on both obverse and reverse, boldly defined. Aesthetically delightful with a fine pedigree as well. The information we have consulted indicates that this is the finest known of the variety. Not only is the quality exceedingly impressive, but the sharp striking and other features contribute to the desirability.

The "O" mintmark is double-punched, lending interest.

This is the finest of 46 examples certified Mint State by PCGS and NGC (combined MS-60 or better). This Eliasberg specimen is the only example to receive the lofty MS-67 grade with second best graded just MS-65.

From our sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997. Previously from the Matthew A. Stickney Collection, Henry Chapman, June 25-29, 1907; to John H. Clapp and the Clapp estate; sold to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.



- 2088 1856 MS-64 (NGC).** A lustrous and brilliant example of a popular and plentiful date. Struck from a rusted reverse die.

If you have a technical turn of mind you may want to know that the 1856 represents the first year of a *new* type. The weight was reduced on the quarter dollar on February 21, 1853, after which 1853-dated quarters were struck with arrows at the date and rays on the reverse, followed by 1854 and 1855 quarters with arrows alone. Thus, the 1856 is the first year of the new reduced weight to be made *without* arrows.

- 2089 Four AU-50 Liberty Seated quarters,** all toned unless noted: ☆ 1856 ☆ 1861. Brilliant ☆ 1877-S ☆ 1883. A scarce date. (Total: 4 pieces)

Gem Proof 1865 Quarter



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2090 1865 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Areas of deep golden brown and gun-metal-blue on the obverse with slightly lighter gold, blue, and rose toning on the reverse. Frosty devices and mirror fields. Minor repunching is noted at QUAR. DOL. on the reverse. Only 500 Proofs of the date were minted.

It was not easy to purchase Proof coins from the Philadelphia Mint in 1865, as the Mint would not accept federal Legal Tender paper money or Fractional Currency at par. Instead, anyone desiring to purchase Proofs had to go to a bullion or exchange dealer and buy earlier-dated silver coins at a sharp premium, then send them to the Mint in payment.

- 2091 Five AU-55 Liberty Seated quarters,** all lightly toned: ☆ 1873 Arrows ☆ 1875 ☆ 1876-S ☆ 1877-S ☆ 1891-S. A pleasing group. (Total: 5 pieces)



- 2092 1877 Proof-64.** A bright cameo Proof with light ivory surfaces. Deeply mirrored and sharply struck. Aside from a few very faint hairlines, there are no impairments to describe. This is a very popular issue due to the Proof-only nature of the minor coinage and twenty-cent piece. This coinage date is often chosen by collectors who desire to build a 19th-century Proof set. Moreover, the published mintage of just 510 Proofs this year is the lowest of its era.

- 2093 Liberty Seated quarter duo:** ☆ 1877 MS-60. Brilliant ☆ 1881 Proof-60. Golden toning. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 2094 1892 Barber.** MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous with a touch of gold on both sides. A satiny near-gem specimen of the first year of Barber quarter coinage. Type II reverse, eagle's wing tip covers most of E in UNITED.

- 2095 Five Mint State Barber quarters:** ☆ 1892 (3). MS-63, and MS-62 (2) ☆ 1916 MS-63 ☆ 1916-D MS-63. All are attractively toned. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 2096** Barber quarter foursome: ☆ 1892 Type I reverse. MS-60. Much rarer than its Type II counterpart ☆ 1892-O AU-55 ☆ 1896 AU-55 ☆ 1916-D MS-60. The reverse is of gem MS-65 quality. (Total: 4 pieces)



- 2097** 1894-O Breen-4140. Mintmark far to right. MS-64 (PCGS). A frosty near-gem quarter with iridescent gold on the obverse, mainly brilliant on the reverse. Nicely struck save for a few tiny areas in the reverse design. Fairly elusive in Uncirculated despite a generous mintage of more than 2.8 million pieces.

PCGS Population: 9; 5 finer (MS-65).

- 2098** 1901 Proof-64. A lovely choice Proof with bright cameo contrast. Light hairlines with a small spot on the reverse. New obverse and reverse hubs were produced in 1900, the obverse first used in 1901. This coin is from both new hubs, thus is technically the first year of issue for a new design type.

- 2099** 1902 MS-64 (NGC). A whisper of gold on satiny matte-like surfaces. Nicely struck.

- 2100** 1907 Proof-64. Mottled gold, violet, and sea green on the obverse, with the same colors only faintly represented on the reverse. Strong cameo contrast.

Remarks we made earlier under Liberty Head nickel Proofs are equally relevant to Barber quarter Proofs (and other series of the era). The market today in 1999 is lower than it was a decade ago. At the same time, the supply of coins is no larger—in fact, it is smaller due to normal loss, attrition, and mishandling. In our opinion, carefully selected Proofs of this era, if in medium to high numerical grades and, *equally important*, with good eye appeal, represent an excellent value.

Gem Cameo 1912 Proof 25¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2101** 1912 Proof-67 (PCGS). Pale iridescent lilac and gold grace the satiny obverse motifs and mirrored fields, while the reverse displays bright gold and light blue highlights. A pretty coin

both physically and aesthetically, a glistening Proof of the highest quality.

PCGS Population: 7; 1 finer (Proof-68).

- 2102** 1912 Proof-64 (PCGS). A frosty cameo with splashes of gold on both sides. From a Proof mintage for the date of 700 pieces.

Choice Mint State 1912-S 25¢



- 2103** 1912-S MS-64 (NGC). A satiny specimen with pale rose highlights on both sides. Highly lustrous. One of 14 dates in the Barber quarter series (1892-1916) with mintages below one million pieces (in this case, 708,000 coins). It is not often that we have a 1912-S quarter dollar of this quality to offer in one of our sales. Here is such an occasion, and an aggressive bid is suggested.

- 2104** 1916-D MS-64. A highly attractive example of this final Barber quarter dollar issue. Sharply struck and fully brilliant with frosty lustre.



- 2105** 1917 Type I. Standing Liberty. MS-65 FH (PCGS). A sharply struck satiny gem with strong lustre and a touch of pale rose toning on both sides. Lovely for the grade.

- 2106** Lustrous Standing Liberty quarter selection, all MS-63: ☆ 1917 Type I ☆ 1923 ☆ 1924-D ☆ 1928-S ☆ 1929. Each is highly lustrous and fully brilliant. A great group. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 2107** A half dozen MS-63 Standing Liberty quarters: ☆ 1917 Type I ☆ 1924 ☆ 1925 ☆ 1926 ☆ 1926-D ☆ 1927. Some are brilliant, others lightly toned. (Total: 6 pieces)

- 2108** Five Mint State Standing Liberty quarters: ☆ 1917 Type I. MS-63 ☆ 1917 Type II. MS-60 ☆ 1926-D MS-63 ☆ 1929-S MS-60 ☆ 1930 MS-62. All are lightly toned. (Total: 5 pieces)

- 2109** A half dozen early-date Standing Liberty quarters: ☆ 1917 Type I. AU-58 ☆ 1917-D Type I (2). AU-55 and AU-50 ☆ 1917-S Type I. AU-50 ☆ 1917-S Type II. AU-55 ☆ 1919 AU-50. All faintly toned. (Total: 6 pieces)

Partial Set of Standing Liberty Quarters

- 2110** Partial set of Standing Liberty quarters, including the following dates: ☆ 1917-D Type I. AU-50 ☆ 1917-S Type I. AU-50 ☆ 1917 Type II. EF-45 ☆ 1917-D Type II. AU-50 ☆ 1917-S Type II. AU-50 ☆ 1918 EF-45 ☆ 1918-D AU-55 ☆ 1918-S AU-58 ☆ 1919 EF-45 ☆ 1919-D VF-20 ☆ 1919-S VF-20 ☆ 1920 VF-20 ☆ 1920-D AU-58 ☆ 1920-S VF-30 ☆ 1921 VF-30 ☆ 1924-S F-15 ☆ 1925 MS-60 ☆ 1927 AU-50 ☆ 1927-D AU-55 ☆ 1928-D AU-55 ☆ 1928-D AU-55 ☆ 1930 AU-55 ☆ 1930-S AU-55. A grand start to a complete collection. (Total: 22 pieces)

- 2111 A brilliant and lustrous pair of Standing Liberty quarters, both MS-64: ☆ 1917-S Type I ☆ 1928-D. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2112 Three Mint State Standing Liberty quarters: ☆ 1919 MS-63 FH. Toned ☆ 1926 MS-64. Toned ☆ 1929-D MS-64. Brilliant. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 2113 1928-S MS-66 FH (NGC). A lovely gem with blazing lustre and a whisper of golden toning. A gorgeous coin that holds up well under close scrutiny. Elusive this nicely struck.
- 2114 1928-S MS-65 (PCGS). Blazing mint lustre on satiny surfaces. A hint of gold is noted on the reverse.
- 2115 Three popular issues: ☆ 1930 quarter. MS-62 (PCGS) ☆ 1833 half dollar. AU-55 (ANACS) ☆ 1927 Vermont commemorative half dollar. MS-64 (PCGS). All are toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

Nearly Complete Washington 25¢ Set

- 2116 Washington quarters 1932 to 1991-S: Not complete but nearly so. Highlights include 1932-D MS-60, 1932-S AU-58, 1934-D MS-63, 1935-D MS-64, 1936-D MS-63, 1937-S MS-64, 1939-S MS-63. The balance average MS-62 or 63 plus some later Proofs. (Total: 184 pieces)

HALF DOLLARS

Our offering of half dollars includes a very attractive and quite rare 1797, a notable quality 1839-O, and other delights and attractions, continuing through the Liberty Seated, Barber, and Liberty Walking series. Then follows a very important offering of Franklin half dollars in high grades.

- 2117 Half dollar trio of three different design types: ☆ 1795 Overton-109, Rarity-4. G-6. Popular Flowing Hair design as made only in 1794-5 ☆ 1837 AU-50. Late die stage with numerous cracks on both obverse and reverse ☆ 1838 Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-50. Minor reverse rim damage at HALF. In 1838 the reverse inscription was revised. (Total: 3 pieces)

Memorable 1797 Half Dollar

Overton-101a

Late Die State



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2118 1797 O-101a. Rarity-5. VF-30 (NGC). Dark lilac-gray with the usual minor surface marks expected for this grade level. Very nicely centered with full obverse and reverse borders, slightly weak at the right side of the obverse. A very pleasing example of this desirable rarity, in demand by variety specialists as well as date and type collectors. Both dies display extensive die cracks as illustrated above.

This design type with Draped Bust obverse and Small Eagle reverse was limited to production dated 1796 and 1797. All coins of both dates were produced between February 28 and May 26, 1797, from three obverse and two reverse dies. Total production was limited to just 3,918 coins. Almost certainly, those dated 1796 were produced first, with the 1797 coinage being produced near the end of the time period noted above. Three deliveries of coinage were listed in Mint records: February 28, 1797 (60 coins); March 21, 1797 (874 coins); and May 26, 1797 (2,984 coins). The mystery surrounding these coins centers on three questions. First, when were the coinage dies produced? Second, in what order were the coins produced? Third, how many of the total production were struck for each of the four varieties? Of course, none of these questions can be answered with any certainty.

One 1796-dated obverse along with the 1797-dated obverse has 15 stars. The other 1796-dated obverse has 16 stars. Since Tennessee was admitted to the United States as the 16th state on June 1, 1796, we predict that the two 15-star obverse dies were actually engraved prior to this date. Most likely, as Walter Breen and others have suggested, the 1797-dated 15-star obverse die was initially engraved without the final date digit, this being added just prior to the die actually being used. The other obverse die, dated 1796 and having 16 stars, was likely produced after June 1, 1796.

The four varieties are catalogued as Overton-101 and 102 of 1796 and Overton-101 and 102 of 1797. The first reverse die was used for both 1796

varieties and 1797 O-101. This reverse is found without die cracks on 1796 O-101, with or without die cracks for 1796 O-102, and only with die cracks for 1797 O-101. Late states of 1797 O-101 have several reverse die cracks. The coins, therefore, must have been struck in the order presented by Overton. The 1797 obverse die is found with or without cracks on O-101 and only with cracks on 1797 O-102. Thus, the order of striking these four varieties is the same as catalogued by Overton.

The quantity minted for each of the four varieties is nearly impossible to determine. However, 1796 O-101 and 1797 O-101 are clearly more common than either variety listed as O-102. Further, coins dated 1796 are scarcer than those dated 1797. We estimate that the total mintage is distributed with 30% 1796 O-101, 10% 1796 O-102, 45% 1797 O-101, and 15% 1797 O-102. Therefore, the estimated mintages are 1796 O-101 (1,175); 1796 O-102 (392); 1797 O-101 (1,763); and 1797 O-102 (588). Of course, mintages that start out as approximate estimates can be translated into figures that are very precise-appearing—a great danger in numismatic research and study, as often a casual opinion translates into a theory and, several writers later, a *fact*. Only in recent times have numismatists have been paying close attention to certain “facts” stated by Walter Breen.

Re-examinations have shown many things that were simply guesswork or educated estimates have become the equivalent of incontrovertible facts. Probably this is nowhere more evident than in mintage figures. Walter Breen was the chief author of the precise-appearing figures that are presented in the *Guide Book of United States Coins* and other places, especially in instances in which mintages of a given year were divided between or among more than one type. To begin with, production figures in the early days of the Mint, given for a certain calendar year, do not necessarily represent coins dated that year. Dies were kept on hand and used until they wore out. R.W. Julian has stated, for example, that mintages of half cents 1832-1834 seem to be way out of line. One of the most glaring errors, explained in great detail in Dave Bowers' book, *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, relates to the published mintage figures of the 1796 and 1797 silver dollars. Consult the latest issue of the *Guide Book* and you will note that without explanation these facts are stated: 72,920 were minted of the 1796 silver dollar and only 7,776 were minted of the 1797. By any reasonable accounting, this would suggest that today 1797 half dollars are about nine times rarer than those dated 1796, all other things being equal. However, this is not at all true, and the 1797 half dollars were only *slightly scarcer* than those dated 1796. Much more could be said concerning aspects of research, and we expect that the next decade will see more enlightenment in this area than any other comparable 10 years in the history of our fine hobby.



2119 1801 O-101. Rarity-3. VF-25 (PCGS). Lilac-gray with golden toning on the high points. Essentially problem-free, and an attractive coin as well.

2120 1803 O-101. Rarity-3. Large 3. EF-40 (NGC). Medium slate gray with lilac toning on the high points. Some deep gray is noted in the peripheral areas. Devoid of major marks, and quite pleasing overall.

2121 Pair of half dollars: ☆ 1805 O-111. Rarity-3. VF-20 ☆ 1839 Capped Bust. AU-55. Traces of lustre remain. A valuable pair. (Total: 2 pieces)

2122 1821 O-101a. AU-55. Highly lustrous and mostly brilliant save for a whisper of deep rose and electric blue at the rims. A lovely piece with the overall appeal of a higher grade.

2123 1821 O-103. Rarity-3. AU-50. Dark grayish brown toning with bright amber. Sharp central details, slightly weaker at the impression. A few minor surface marks are noted.

Choice 1822/1 “Overdate” 50¢

Probable Condition Census



2124 1822/1 O-101. Overdate. MS-63 (PCGS). Lustrous with smoky golden gray toning on satiny matte-like surfaces. Essentially well struck in all areas, although a touch of weakness is seen here and there. A candidate for the low end of the Condition Census for the variety.

Condition Census: MS-65, MS-65, MS-63, MS-63, MS-63.

O-101: Historically, this popular variety has been called an overdate, and for a long time was listed as 1822/1 in the *Guide Book*. The evidence of its overdate status consists of an irregular area located above the base and within the curl of the second 2 in the date. More recent opinions from specialists in the series lean toward an irregularity in the die rather than the upright of an effaced 1, as long believed.

From our Rarities Sale, January 1999, Lot 35.

Incredible Gem Mint State 1828 Half Dollar

Tied for Finest Certified by NGC



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2125 1828 O-107. Curl Base 2. MS-66 (NGC). Lustrous satiny steel gray surfaces show blue and gold iridescence on both sides. A

superlative gem example of Capped Bust half dollar coinage. Undoubtedly a Condition Census specimen of the variety, perhaps the *finest known* overall. Sharply struck in all areas save for a few obverse stars. A special coin that should see special attention from bidders when it crosses the auction block.

NGC Census: 4; none finer.

It is interesting to note that the only other 1828 half dollar of any variety or designation graded MS-66 by NGC is the Eliasberg specimen of Overton-115.

- 2126 Two lustrous Capped Bust half dollars: ☆ 1835 O-103. AU-50. Brilliant ☆ 1837 Reeded edge. AU-55. Deeply toned. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2127 1837 AU-55. The planchet has a minor split at 9:00. Bright silver surfaces with peripheral russet and blue toning. A few minor surface marks and other abrasions are noted. Sharp central designs, very weak around the borders. This is the second year of a two-year type, or if you subscribe to the theory that the 1836 reeded edge coins are patterns (they are listed in both the Pollock and Judd pattern references), then this is a single-year type coin.
- 2128 Pair of 1837 half dollars: ☆ AU-55. Considerable mint lustre ☆ AU-50. Lightly toned. An attractive pair. (Total: 2 pieces)

Gem 1839-O Half Dollar

A Condition Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2129 1839-O MS-65 (NGC). Sharply struck with satiny ivory surfaces and light peripheral toning. Very slight weakness is noted at the top of the Liberty cap and on the eagle's claws. This is a very scarce date in gem quality, and is popular as the first col-

lectible half dollar from the New Orleans Mint. Both obverse and reverse dies have extensive cracks.

The obverse die has several individual die cracks joining all stars and the date. This series of cracks starts and stops in short intervals. There appear to be at least eight individual die cracks on the obverse. The reverse is likewise shattered with a series of peripheral cracks, some quite heavy in places. A heavy crack extends through the upper reverse field to the eagle's beak. There appear to be at least 10 separate cracks on the reverse. The 1839-O half dollar has attracted quite a few collectors over a period of years, as the mintmark on the obverse furnishes a bright beacon to the curious, especially as the only *other* Capped Bust half dollar with mintmark on the obverse is the 1839-O, a coin of which fewer than 20 are believed to exist. Interestingly, nearly all 1839-O half dollars in existence today have die cracks, some extensive as above, others slight.

- 2130 Five Liberty Seated half dollars, each AU-50, and each toned unless noted ☆ 1840-O. Brilliant ☆ 1858 ☆ 1877 ☆ 1877-S ☆ 1878. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 2131 1854-O MS-61. Mottled golden toning on lustrous surfaces. Struck from a shattered obverse die. Several cracks converge at the date, while others extend from the obverse rim at 3:00 to Liberty's arm and drapery, and with several smaller cracks noted as well. Interesting.
- 2132 1861 MS-62. Highly lustrous and mainly brilliant with a trace of deep gold at the rims.



- 2133 1863 Proof-63 (ANACS). Fully brilliant centers give way to rich golden toning at the rims. One of only 460 Proofs of the date struck during this pivotal Civil War year, the lowest Proof mintage of any Liberty Seated half dollar, 1859-1891.

Scarce Mint State 1869 Half Dollar



- 2134 1869 MS-64. Very attractive light gold toning over satiny lustre. Sharply struck with every detail bold, save for very slight weakness in one of the eagle's talons. Lightly mirrored fields with light cameo contrast. This is a delightful example of a scarce date in Mint State quality. In general, With Motto half dollars struck in the late 1860s and early 1870s, prior to the addition of arrows at the date, are much scarcer in Mint State than those later issues of the 1870s, from 1875 through the end of the series.

Scarce 1870-CC Half Dollar

First Year of Mint Operations



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2135 1870-CC Wiley Bugert-101. EF-40 (PCGS).** Mainly silver gray with a touch of gold at the rims. A scarce and desirable issue from the first year of Carson City Mint operations, a date that is seldom found above EF. Only 54,617 pieces were struck and virtually every one of that number saw extensive use in circulation during the heady days of the Comstock Lode's production. A finer specimen than Eliasberg:2012 (that coin was "only" VF-20).

PCGS Population: 4; none finer.

Some interesting historical notes were included in our previous description of this coin, and they are reprinted here for the benefit of interested parties.

After the discovery of the Comstock Lode in 1859, Nevada Territory became a mecca for fortune seekers, much the same as the gold mining regions of California had been a decade earlier. In the 1860s, Virginia City, Nevada, was one of the most thriving mining towns on the face of the earth. During that decade, the repeated call for a mint in the region finally bore fruit, and the U.S. Mint at Carson City opened its doors in 1870, about 15 miles from Virginia City. From the opening date until 1885, Carson City produced gold and silver coins, although silver denominations of 50 cents or less were not struck after 1878. No coins of any denomination were struck there from 1885 through 1888; in 1889, the Mint reopened and coined Morgan dollars and gold coins until its final closing in 1893.

It is appropriate at this point to insert what Augustus Heaton had to say about Carson City half dollars when he wrote his monograph, *Mint Marks*, in 1893:

"The CC Mint coinage of half dollars is, unlike its series of dimes and quarters, an unbroken sequence of nine dates from 1870 to 1878. Unlike them, however, no year's coinage was so very small as to be extremely rare. Yet three dates may be called very scarce and one variety rare. 1870 is the first of these dates. It has a pair of small upright cc's, close together, and high over the F, rather to the left. 1871 and 1872 repeat these details. The former date, while not scarce, is certainly not common. 1873 presents two varieties. The first has a plain date, and the Mint Mark consists of two very small round cc's, close together, in the same location as before. This variety we consider rare. The second presents, for the first time, arrowheads at each

side of the date, and has the upright, small, close cc's of preceding years. 1874 continues the arrowheads, and has the very small, close, rounded cc's high over the F, rather to the left. It is the second scarce date. 1875 discontinues the arrowheads, and offers two varieties. The first has the small upright cc's but widely separated, in the usual location. The second shows the very small, rounded, close mintmark placed as before.

In 1876 we have again two varieties, small, close, upright cc's, rather to the left, over the F, and very small, rounded, close cc's directly over this letter. 1877 extends its varieties to three. The first is a very small, rounded, close pair of cc's high over the F and space to the right; the second a wider separated pair of upright small cc's high over the F, and to the left; the third gives the latter mintmark placed lower over the F. 1878 is the third scarce date of the series. Its mintmark, placed over the space to the left of the F, is the small upright pair of cc's in two varieties, one having the cc's even, the other having the first c higher than the second. Varieties thus extend the Carson City half dollar set to 15 pieces."

From our Rarities Sale, January 1999, Lot 156, there purchased by the consignor, and now offered by us once again—along with other items from the same person.

- 2136 1873 Closed 3. Proof-63.** Moderately reflective fields with attractive cameo contrast. Bright lilac and blue toning that intensifies toward the periphery. Minor hairlines are noted, especially in the right obverse field.

Choice Uncirculated 1873-S Arrows 50¢



- 2137 1873-S Arrows. MS-63.** Lustrous with warm pale golden toning on both sides. Nicely struck in all areas save for a hint of weakness at the eagle's right talons. A scarce date, its mintage of 228,000 pieces being only 13,440 pieces greater than its rare brethren of the same date from the Carson City Mint. A grand opportunity for the alert collector.
- 2138 1875 MS-63 (ANACS).** Satiny lilac-gray surfaces display lovely lustre.
- 2139 1891 Proof-63.** A brilliant silvery white cameo Proof with considerable aesthetic appeal. This is a highly attractive Proof with a minute splash of brown toning on the reverse. Final year of the Liberty Seated design.
- 2140 Two MS-60 Barber half dollars:** ☆ 1892. Prooflike obverse ☆ 1894. Both are toned. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2141 Barber half dollar trio:** ☆ 1892 (2). AU-58 and AU-55 ☆ 1900 AU-58. All are lustrous and lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2142 Three Barber half dollars:** ☆ 1892 AU-50. Deep golden toning ☆ 1893 (2). AU-55 and AU-53. One is brilliant, the other is delicately toned. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2143 1901 MS-63.** Sharply struck with brilliant frosty lustre. Light gold and blue toning around the borders frame the design. From a new obverse hub first put to use for coinage of this date. Thus, a technical first-year design type.
- 2144 1902 MS-63.** A brilliant example with frosty white lustre and sharp design details. The obverse has a faint splash of amber toning at 10:00. An extremely attractive coin for the date or type collector.

- 2145 Two Barber half dollars, both AU-58: ☆ 1902. Prooflike ☆ 1911. Both exhibit light golden toning. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2146 1904 Proof-63 (NGC). Mottled gold and blue toning on reflective surfaces. From a Proof mintage for the date of 640 pieces.
- 2147 PCGS-certified half dollars: ☆ 1904 AU-53 ☆ 1943 MS-65 ☆ 1946-D MS-65. All are brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2148 1905 Proof-60 (ANACS). Muted silver gray surfaces. A noticeable toning spot is seen at the date. This particular year is quite desirable as related business strikes are somewhat scarce.
- 2149 1906 MS-62. Lustrous silver gray surfaces have a satiny appearance.
- 2150 1906-D MS-63. The first Barber half dollar from the Denver Mint, from the first year of coinage production at this facility. Brilliant and frosty with sharp design details. A nice coin to start a collection of 1906 Denver coinage. Such a project consists of just six coins: dime, quarter dollar, half dollar, half eagle, eagle, and double eagle. All are common dates and only the double eagle is a little more expensive due to the gold content.
An expanded set of Denver Mint coinage would include the first year of issue for each denomination. The only expensive coin is the 1911-D quarter eagle, a scarce date, and even this coin is not overly rare or pricey.
- 2151 1915 Proof-62 (ANACS). Mainly brilliant with a whisper of gold on each side. Attractive for the grade. The 1915 is, of course, one of the most desirable of all dates in the Barber half dollar series, representing as it does the second lowest Proof mintage of the design (the lowest being 1914) and also having the second lowest related business strike mintage (again, the lowest is 1914).
- 2152 1915 Proof-62. Lustrous with some cloudiness on both sides. Another opportunity to acquire this highly prized key date.
- 2153 1915-D MS-64. Frosty light ivory lustre with slight champagne toning. Sharply struck and very attractive. This is a wonderful type coin for the collector, from the last production year of the Barber half dollars.
- 2154 Certified Liberty Walking half dollar group, all toned unless noted: ☆ 1917 MS-62 (PCGS) ☆ 1939 MS-63 (PCGS) ☆ 1939-S MS-63 (PCGS). Brilliant ☆ 1942 MS-65 (NGC) ☆ 1944-D MS-65 (NGC). (Total: 5 pieces)
- 2155 Liberty Walking half dollar trio: ☆ 1917 MS-61. Lightly toned ☆ 1940 MS-65. Brilliant and very attractive ☆ 1947 MS-65. Lightly toned. A valuable group. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2156 1918 Liberty Walking. MS-62. Satiny and lustrous. Some faint hairlines are noted on the reverse, otherwise a candidate for a higher grade. Some striking weakness is noted on the obverse.



- 2157 1920 MS-64 (PCGS). Satiny silver gray surfaces exhibit pale rose toning.



- 2158 1935-D MS-65 (NGC). Highly lustrous with pale champagne toning highlights. Nicely struck.
- 2159 1941 Proof-66 (PCGS). Highly reflective surfaces display modest cameo contrast. The variety without designer's initials on the reverse, this being the norm for the era (during the preparation of this particular Proof die, the polishing was too aggressive and the monogram was removed).
- 2160 Liberty Walking "short set," 1941 to 1947-D. Grades range from AU-55 to MS-63. All are brilliant and lustrous. A nicely matched set. Housed in a Capital Plastics holder. What a grand gift this would be for a beginning collector! (Total: 20 pieces)

Outstanding Gem 1941-S 50¢



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2161 1941-S MS-67 (NGC). Fully brilliant and displaying bold lustre on the reverse. The obverse is struck from a very heavily polished die giving it bold, prooflike qualities. An array of heavy polish lines are visible. Well struck, but still displaying some softness on Miss Liberty's dress lines as is expected for San Francisco Mint half dollars of this era. The reverse is frosty and bold, though again, some light weakness is noted in the central details. An exceptional business strike.

The 1941-S is usually as flat as a pancake, this being true of examples in all grades. Thus, the present coin is interesting and desirable for the high numerical grade, but the above average striking is what especially brings the coin to the limelight.

Gem Mint State 1941-S 50¢



2162 1941-S MS-66 (PCGS). Satiny silver gray surfaces exhibit warm golden toning at the rims. Nicely struck; perhaps not of full central detail, but certainly above average for the date. Fairly scarce at the gem level and, especially, when decently struck.

2163 1942 Proof-65. Delightful cameo Proof with moderate contrast and splashes of gold toning on the obverse. This is one of the most beautiful coin designs ever produced. Proofs were made only for a limited number of years, 1936 through 1942. The present piece is particularly attractive. In addition, another attraction is provided by the price structure: just about anyone can afford to own the present piece.



2164 1947 MS-67 (NGC). Highly lustrous with a hint of golden toning. A superb gem specimen from the final year of the series. Tied for finest certified by NGC.

NGC Census: 14; none finer.



2165 1947 MS-67 (NGC). Pale golden toning on highly lustrous surfaces. Sharply struck.

2166 Pair of 1947 Liberty Walking half dollars. Both graded MS-66 (PCGS). Each brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

2167 Pair of MS-66 Liberty Walking half dollars: ☆ 1947 ☆ 1947-D. Both brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

2168 Pair of MS-66 Liberty Walking half dollars: ☆ 1947 ☆ 1947-D. Both brilliant and highly lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

Gem Brilliant 1947 Half Dollars

2169 Selection of brilliant, gem-quality 1947 half dollars, each graded MS-66 (NGC). Bright and highly lustrous. (Total: 8 pieces)

If you have a hoarding instinct—and it's always fun to squirrel away a few extra nice coins when the opportunity presents itself—you can be in heaven with the present lot, or those following.

A Second Gem Grouping

2170 Toned offering of gem 1947 half dollars, each graded MS-66 (NGC). All display varying degrees of original toning, some rather heavy. (Total: 8 pieces)

A Final Gem Selection

2171 A final large offering of gem 1947 half dollars, each graded MS-66 (NGC). Each with traces of toning, some just enough to keep them from the brilliant category. None are heavily toned. An attractive grouping. (Total: 12 pieces)

2172 Pair of gem-quality 1947-D Liberty Walking half dollars, both graded MS-66 (PCGS). Each with traces of light toning. (Total: 2 pieces)

Impressive Gem 1947-D Half Dollars

2173 Large grouping of gem-quality 1947-D Liberty Walking half dollars, each graded MS-66 (NGC). Each coin displays rich natural toning. A *colorful* selection offering much aesthetic appeal. (Total: 10 pieces)

Another Quality Group

2174 Grouping of gem Mint State 1947-D half dollars, all graded MS-66 (NGC). Nearly all are fully brilliant, though some have light golden blushes. A beautiful selection, all well struck and highly lustrous. (Total: 10 pieces)

Another Gem Offering

2175 Grouping of gem Mint State 1947-D half dollars. All graded MS-66 (NGC). Most have light traces of toning, otherwise fully brilliant. (Total: 10 pieces)

A Final Gem Selection

2176 A final selection of gem-quality 1947-D half dollars, each graded MS-66 (NGC). All are lustrous with varying degrees of mottled toning. (Total: 10 pieces)

2177 1948 Franklin. MS-66 FBL (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous centers give way to lively deep golden iridescence at the rims. A sharply struck specimen from the first year of the series. Tied for finest graded by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 26; none finer.

Here commences a very nice offering of Franklin half dollars from 1948 onward. Permit your editor to digress slightly: When we first started business in 1953, in a small way, we had as a general policy not to handle any "modern" coins, these being pieces dated since 1940. For a long time we did not keep Franklin half dollars in stock. This was not as unusual as it might sound today, for most Franklin half dollars, except for the 1949-S (which was considered to be a bit scarce), were available in quantities via \$10 face value bank-wrapped rolls, which traded for \$11 or \$12 per roll, scarcely worth the handling.

Years later, Franklin half dollars came into their own right as a highly interesting collectible, and today they are widely desired. It is interesting how series fall in and out of favor. Right now, Franklin halves are active and attract many followers. On the other hand, Jefferson nickels are often ignored, and a complete set of Mint State pieces from 1938 onward can be obtained more cheaply today than years ago. Regarding Jefferson nickels, many of the business strikes are lightly defined on the centers, and some of them are downright "scruffy," and thus anyone who sets MS-65 as a goal is apt to spend very little money, as certain issues either are so rare they can't be found, or are rare but also ignored and are of low prices, so dealers don't bother to handle them.

Franklin half dollars of 1948-1953 are quite desirable from a collecting viewpoint, inasmuch as the entire series is quite affordable. True, some

high-grade pieces are elusive and are expensive, but anyone who cannot afford these can simply drop down a few grading numbers to, say, MS-63, at which level everything is fairly inexpensive.

The present selection is indeed remarkable, as noted, and will provide many opportunities.

- 2178 1948 MS-66 FBL (PCGS). A brilliant and satiny gem with strong lustre on both sides. Tied for finest graded by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 26; none finer.

- 2179 Quartette of gem-quality Franklin half dollars with elusive full bell lines, each graded MS-66 FBL (PCGS): ☆ 1948. Opaque gray and russet toning ☆ 1952. Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1953. Steel gray, russet, and rich blue ☆ 1956. Mottled steel gray. All with bright lustre. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 2180 1949 MS-66 FBL (NGC). Warm golden toning on lustrous surfaces. Tied for finest certified by NGC.

NGC Census: 10; none finer.



- 2181 1949-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS). Smoky golden gray surfaces display strong lustre. The key date in the Franklin half dollar series when in gem Mint State.

- 2182 1949-S MS-65 FBL (NGC). A satiny gem with strong cartwheel lustre on both sides.

Years ago the 1949-S was regarded as *the* key issue in the Franklin half dollar series. At that time no attention at all was paid to whether a coin was sharply struck. Today in 1999 we realize that rarity can be of several different aspects—some issues, the 1949 being an example—are generally elusive in Mint State, but when Full Bell Lines are considered, some of the common varieties in lower grades emerge as being great rarities—far more so than the 1949-S.

- 2183 Certified Franklin half dollar group, all delicately toned unless noted: ☆ 1949-S MS-64 (PCGS) ☆ 1951-S MS-65 (PCGS). Deeply toned, particularly on the reverse ☆ 1962-D MS-65 (NGC) ☆ 1963-D MS-65 (NGC). (Total: 4 pieces)



- 2184 1950 Proof-67 (NGC). Lustrous satiny surfaces with a splash of pale golden toning. Tied for finest graded by NGC.

NGC Census: 26; none finer.

This represents the first year that Franklin half dollars were struck with Proof finish. During World War II in 1942, Proof production was suspended, and it was not until 1950 that the Mint began making Proofs once more.

Scarce Cameo Proof 1950 50¢



- 2185 1950 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC). Bright, reflective Proof field contrast nicely against the sharp, fully frosted devices. A lovely example with just tiny flecks of toning visible at the peripheries. While the cameo effect is commonly found on later Proof Franklin half dollars, cameos of the early years (1950, 1951 and 1952) are quite elusive.

1950 Cameo Proof 50¢



- 2186 1950 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC). Fully brilliant Proof surfaces on each side with all devices sharp and frosty. Another beautiful example with full cameo effect.

- 2187 1950 MS-66 FBL (NGC). Deeply toned in gold, orange, and blue. Lustrous.



- 2188 1951 Proof-67 (PCGS). A highly lustrous and brilliant gem. Tied for finest certified by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 34; none finer.



- 2189 1951 Proof-67 (PCGS). Fully brilliant and highly lustrous. Tied for finest graded by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 34; none finer.

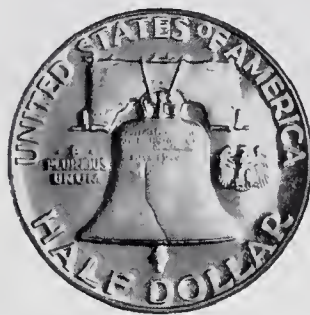
Rare Ultra Cameo 1951 50¢



- 2190 1951 Proof-66 UC (NGC).** Deeply mirrored Proof fields behind silvery white frosted devices. A strong cameo effect and glistening brilliant surfaces offer superb aesthetic quality. One of the highlights in our Franklin half dollar offering.



- 2191 1951 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** A gem specimen offering nearly full brilliance save for a small deep russet area near the rim on each side. Bright and reflective with a sharp cameo contrast on both sides.



- 2192 1951 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** Bright and reflective mirrored fields in strong contrast to the frosty devices. Well struck with flashy silver brilliance.



- 2193 1951 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC).** Frosty devices against bright and reflective Proof fields. Traces of golden brown toning are visible at the rims.

- 2194 A Full Bell Line quartette graded MS-65 FBL (NGC):** ☆ 1951. Toned silvery gray and russet ☆ 1951-D. Soft golden brown highlights ☆ 1952-D. Soft gray ☆ 1954. Brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 2195 1951-D MS-66 FBL (NGC).** A satiny gem with golden gray surfaces and a crescent of deep gold at the obverse rim. Tied for finest certified by NGC.

NGC Census: 5; none finer.

- 2196 1951-S MS-66 FBL (PCGS).** Lustrous steel gray with speckled deep orange-gold toning. Tied for finest graded by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 16; none finer.

- 2197 1952 Proof-67 (NGC).** A lovely coin of superb quality, fully as bright as the day it left the mint. Frosty devices and deep mirror fields create a strong and pleasing cameo contrast (surprisingly, NGC did not proffer its "CAMEO" designation to this coin). A true gem.

- 2198 1952 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** Sharp cameo contrast on both sides. Near full brilliance save for light wisps of opaque white toning. Very attractive overall.

- 2199 1952 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant and reflective with bold cameo contrast. Die polish lines are visible on the central devices, as made.

- 2200 Desirable offering of gem Franklin half dollars. Each piece is graded MS-66 FBL (PCGS):** ☆ 1952 (2). One pale gold with highlights of bright green, russet and lavender; one with rosy toning ☆ 1957. Steel gray and mottled russet on the obverse. Bright gold tones highlight the reverse ☆ 1958. Steel gray at the centers with a thin rainbow at the periphery. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 2201 1952-S MS-65 FBL (PCGS).** Deeply toned in mixed gold and red on the obverse, satiny silver gray with a touch of gold at the rim on the reverse.

- 2202 A trio of superb gem Proof Franklin half dollars, each certified by NGC:** ☆ 1953 Proof-68. Slight cameo contrast with traces of light toning ☆ 1954 Proof-68 Cameo. Brilliant and attractive ☆ 1955 Proof-68 Cameo. Brilliant. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 2203 Trio of gem Cameo Proof half dollars:** ☆ 1953 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC). Bright, reflective, and brilliant ☆ 1953 Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS). A halo of russet and deep blue ☆ 1954 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC). Sharp, frosty devices and brilliant fields. An attractive group. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 2204 Quartette of Proof Franklin half dollars:** ☆ 1953 Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS) ☆ 1955 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC) ☆ 1955 Proof-66 (PCGS) ☆ 1956 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo (NGC). Fully brilliant with heavy cameo contrast on both sides. Each with light toning, except where otherwise noted. (Total: 4 pieces)

- 2205 1953 MS-66 FBL (PCGS).** A lustrous gem with a speckling of silver gray toning on both sides. Tied for finest certified by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 7; none finer.

- 2206 1953 MS-66 FBL (PCGS).** Warm golden iridescence on satiny lustrous surfaces.

- 2207** 1953 MS-65 FBL (PCGS). Fully brilliant with strong lustre on satiny surfaces. Absolutely a gem.
- 2208** Gem Mint State selection of Franklin half dollars, each graded MS-65 FBL (PCGS): ☆ 1953 ☆ 1955 ☆ 1957-D ☆ 1959-D. Each with nice lustre and varying degrees of natural mottled toning. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 2209** 1953-D MS-66 FBL (PCGS). Satiny silver gray with a touch of deep gold at the rims. Tied for finest graded by PCGS.
PCGS Population: 7; none finer.
- 2210** High-quality quartette of Franklin half dollars: ☆ 1953-S MS-66 (NGC) ☆ 1960 MS-65 FBL (PCGS) ☆ 1962 MS-64 FBL (PCGS) ☆ 1963 MS-65 FBL (PCGS). Mottled smoky violet and deep blue toning on the obverse. Brilliant and lustrous except where noted. (Total: 4 pieces)



- 2211** 1954 Proof-67 UC (NGC). A superb gem Proof with brilliant surfaces. Deeply mirrored fields are a heavy contrast to frosted devices. A beautiful Franklin half dollar.
- 2212** 1954-S MS-66 FBL (PCGS). Satiny silver gray obverse with rich golden iridescence at the rims, deep gold evenly disbursed on the reverse. Tied for finest graded by PCGS.
PCGS Population: 6; none finer.
- 2213** Quartette of certified 1955 Proof half dollars: ☆ Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC). Splashes of rich violet ☆ Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS). Traces of golden brown ☆ Proof-66 Cameo (NGC). Traces of mottled olive and brown ☆ Proof-65 Ultra Cameo (NGC). Arcs of soft golden brown at the obverse rims. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 2214** Large selection of superb gem Proof Franklin half dollars, each certified by NGC: ☆ 1956 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo ☆ 1956 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo ☆ 1956 Proof-66 Ultra Cameo. Mottled deep violet ☆ 1957 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo. Goldenrod and violet around the peripheries ☆ 1958 Proof-67 Cameo ☆ 1959 Proof-67 Cameo ☆ 1960 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo. Faint traces of violet ☆ 1960 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo. Faint traces of violet ☆ 1960 Proof-67 Cameo ☆ 1960 Proof-66 Ultra Cameo. All brilliant unless otherwise noted. An attractive, high-quality grouping. (Total: 10 pieces)
- 2215** 1960-D MS-65 FBL (NGC). Deep golden gray on the obverse, fully brilliant on the reverse. Tied for finest graded by NGC.
NGC Census: 13; none finer.
- 2216** 1960-D MS-65 (NGC). Highly lustrous with pale sky blue iridescence evenly distributed on both sides. Scarce in gem Mint State.
- 2217** Offering of late-date gem Proof Franklin half dollars: ☆ 1961 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo (NGC) ☆ 1961 Proof-67 Deep Cameo (PCGS) ☆ 1961 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC) ☆ 1961 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC) ☆ 1962 Proof-68 Deep Cameo (PCGS) ☆ 1962 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC). Light violet at the rims ☆ 1962 Proof-66 Deep Cameo (PCGS) ☆ 1963 Proof-68 Cameo (NGC) ☆ 1963 Proof-67 Deep Cameo (PCGS) ☆ 1963 Proof-66 Deep

Cameo (PCGS). Brilliant except where otherwise noted. (Total: 10 pieces)

- 2218** 1961-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS). Highly lustrous and fully brilliant.
- 2219** 1962 MS-65 FBL (PCGS). Pale iridescent gold and rose speckling on each side.

SILVER DOLLARS

Our offering of silver dollars is quite interesting and covers a long span of time. We begin with 1795, then jump to 1796 where the listing continues through 1803. The offering then takes up with the first year of the Liberty Seated series, 1840 and continues to offer several interesting and important issues of that design. Morgan dollars are then featured, and include a very attractive and diverse selection—individual scarcities and rarities as well as group lots. Just about anything and everything can be found.

Desirable 1795 Flowing Hair \$1

Silver Plug at Center



- 2220** 1795 Bowers Borckardt-18, Bolender-7. Rarity-5-. Flowing Hair, Three Leaves, silver plug at center. Net VF-30; sharpness of EF-45, burnished. Deep lilac-gray with lighter areas on the high points. The only 1795 dollar variety with 14 berries in the reverse wreath; seven berries on the left branch, seven berries on the right branch. The E of AMERICA is double punched at the top. A pleasing coin despite some mishandling long ago. Free of unsightly marks. The circumference of the silver plug is plainly visible at the centers of the coin.
- In Dave Bowers book, *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, p. 204, the following is noted regarding the silver plug seen at the center of certain 1795-dated silver dollars: "In a letter to the author dated January 12, 1993, Walter Breen stated that he first noticed the silver plug phenomenon early in 1956 on the Windsor-D.S. Wilson-Clarke B-7, but *dared* not use the word 'plug' or 'plugged' in the description lest it frighten off buyers!" (Robin, note to check spelling on Windsor, may be Winsor)
- In later times, Kenneth E. Bressett and Roger Burdette focused their interest on this issue, more studies were done, and now in 1999, the 1795 silver dollar with silver plug at the center is admired and desired as a distinct variety in its own right, reflecting a very interesting practice at the Philadelphia Mint.
- 2221** 1798 BB-108, B-13. Pointed Tail 9, Heraldic Eagle. VF-30 (PCGS). Medium slate gray with lilac and gold iridescence on the high points. Reverse with 10 arrows caused by lapping of the die at various stages of use.
- 2222** 1798 BB-112, B-15. Rarity-3. Pointed Tail 9, Heraldic Eagle, Wide Date. F-15 (ANACS). Deep slate gray with a hint of blue mixed in. Well worn but not marked in any unsightly way.

2223 1798 BB-123, B-25. Rarity-3. Pointed Tail 9, Heraldic Eagle, Close Date. VF-20. Medium silver gray. Some faint surface granularity and a pair of shallow obverse scratches are noted for accuracy.

2224 1799 BB-154, B-18. Rarity-4+. Normal Date. F-15 (ANACS). Medium slate gray deepens to navy blue at the rims. A nice coin for the assigned grade, one that is essentially free of unsightly marks. A fairly scarce variety.

2225 1799 BB-155, B-19. Rarity-4+. Normal Date. VF-25 (ANACS). Deep lilac gray with lighter areas on the high points. A few tiny marks are present, but the overall integrity of the grade is unaffected by them. Good overall eye appeal.

2226 1799 BB-161, B-11. Normal Date. EF-45 (NGC). Medium silver gray with some light blue overtones. A few light marks are present, none of which stand out overmuch. No berries in the reverse wreath, a result of lapping the die after use in other combinations.

The reverse die of BB-161 was first used to coin BB-158, after which it was lapped, weakening the berries. The die was then used to coin BB-159, and then more examples of BB-158, whereupon it was relapped, effectively removing the berries from the wreath. The die was then reused for BB-160, and finally for BB-161. The obverse die likewise received a solid workout at the Mint, appearing in combination with various reverses such as BB-156, 157, 161, 162, 163, and finally as BB-164.

2227 1799 BB-161, B-11a. Normal Date. VF-30 (ANACS). Light golden gray on the obverse, deeper gray on the reverse. A plethora of tiny ticks can be seen on the obverse (most of which are mainly visible under low magnification).

2228 1799 BB-161, B-11a. Normal Date. VF-20 (ANACS). Medium golden gray with golden toning on the high points. A few scattered marks are present, and a small obverse edge bruise is seen at 3:00.

2229 1799 BB-162, B-6. Rarity-3. Normal Date. F-15 (ANACS). Pale silver gray surfaces. Mint-caused planchet adjustment marks are noted at the obverse center.

2230 1799 BB-165, B-8. Normal Date. VF-20. Deep violet obverse toning verges on black, reverse toning more golden brown but still deep. A few stray marks are noted.

2231 1800 BB-191, B-11. Rarity-3+. AMERICA!. VF-20. Medium bluish gray, no doubt cleaned long ago. The popular variety with a vertical reverse die break or defect that extends from the rim after the final A of AMERICA, giving the appearance of AMERICA! in the legend.

2232 1800 BB-192, B-19. AMERICA!. EF-40. Smoky iridescent gray surfaces exhibit a pale golden sheen. Another of the AMERICA! varieties.

2233 1800 BB-195, B-15. Rarity-3. F-15 (ANACS). Medium golden gray with some lively rose iridescence on both sides. Reverse with 10 *perfect* arrows and three arrow heads *without shafts*. A pleasing coin for the assigned grade.



2234 1801 BB-212, B-2. Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, however, scratched inside the obverse rim. Deeply toned, lighter at the centers, strengthening to blue, amber, and grayish brown. This is a scarcer date among dollars of 1798 through 1803 with the Heraldic Eagle reverse.

2235 1802/1 BB-235, B-9. Rarity-5-. Overdate. F-15. Pale lilac gray with lighter high points. An obverse rim nick is noted at 4:00. A rare and popular overdate variety.

2236 1803 BB-255, B-6. Large 3. Net F-12; sharpness of VF-35, faint obverse scratches and lightly polished, though not harshly so. All things considered, this is still a fairly attractive coin.



2237 1840 Liberty Seated. MS-61 (PCGS). Satiny golden gray surfaces. An attractive Liberty Seated dollar from the first year of coinage for general circulation. Nicely struck. Fewer than 20 examples of this date have been assigned a Mint State designation by PCGS, a fact that speaks clearly of the rarity of this date in Uncirculated grade.

Although Liberty Seated silver dollars dated 1840 represent the first year of the design, it seems that they slipped into circulation virtually unnoticed by the public. Today, Mint State coins are very scarce, even rare, and it is only occasionally that we handle them. In our offering of the Dr. Wallace Lee Collection of Liberty Seated silver dollars in our Rarities Sale, January 1999, we had quite a bit to say about business strike 1840 silver dollars under Lot 236 of that listing.

2238 Pair of Liberty Seated dollars: ☆ 1843 EF-40 ☆ 1859-O VF-30. (Total: 2 pieces)

2239 1844 Quad Stripes obverse. AU-55 (PCGS). Olive and gold iridescence grace both sides of this attractive coin. Nicely struck and free of major marks.

The obverse of the 1844 Liberty Seated dollar exhibits *four* vertical lines in each of the stripes on the shield, unlike any other date in the series (1840-1873). This phenomenon is no doubt the result of moderate die doubling in that area. Additionally, the reverse die shows countless cross-thatched die lines in and around the eagle's wings.

2240 1844 Quad Stripes obverse. AU-53 (PCGS). Pale silver gray with a hint of golden iridescence. A splendid coin for the grade, fully prooflike and sharply struck. You'll wish all your circulated Liberty Seated dollars resembled this specimen.

It should be noted that the *Proof* strikings of the 1844 Liberty Seated dollar were from a different obverse die and have the normal three stripes

Low-Mintage 1850 Liberty Seated \$1

7,500 Struck



2241 1850 Breen-5443. Open 5, Repunched 0. AU-53 (PCGS). Deep lilac-gray surfaces exhibit a hint of bright blue iridescence. Nicely struck. Essentially free of marks that can be detected with the unaided eye. The Open 5 variety, cusp of 5 not touching ball, 0 in date repunched at bottom. The first of several dates in the series with a mintage of less than 10,000 pieces; in this case, just 7,500 examples of the date were coined.

2242 1853 AU-55 (PCGS). A pleasing mix of rose and golden gray on satiny surfaces. Nicely struck, with strong design details present in every area. A nice coin for the assigned grade.

2243 1864 Proof-55. Attractive light blue and heather toning. The fields are fully reflective despite the very brief circulation. A pair of tiny obverse rim marks are noted at 7:00 and 9:00.

From our sale of the Commodore Matthew C. Perry Collection (and other properties), January 1995, Lot 2758. Previously from our sale of the Polis Collection, June 1991, Lot 2879.

Proof 1870 Liberty Seated \$1



2244 1870 Proof-62 (PCGS). Pale champagne toning evenly distributed on both sides. Highly reflective fields and faintly frosted motifs form a modest yet attractive cameo contrast. Choice for the assigned grade.

2245 1873 AU-55. Brilliant and lustrous. Some scattered marks are present.

2246 Quartette of MS-63 Morgan silver dollars: ☆ 1878 8 Tailfeathers. Lightly toned in the peripheries ☆ 1891-O. Lightly toned obverse and lustrous reverse ☆ 1892-O. Fully brilliant ☆ 1903-O. Light golden toning over satiny surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

2247 1878 7 Tailfeathers, 2nd Reverse. MS-65 (NGC). Lustrous with just a whisper of frosty gold toning on the devices.

2248 Quintette of certified Mint State Morgan silver dollars: ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers, 2nd Reverse. MS-64 (PCGS) ☆ 1881-C MS-64 (NGC) ☆ 1882-S MS-65 (ANACS) ☆ 1887 MS-65 (PCGS) ☆ 1904-O MS-65 (ANACS). Each of the preceding are fully brilliant and highly lustrous with the exception of the first coin which has the obverse toned in various iridescent shades (Total: 5 pieces).

Scarce 1878 7 Tailfeathers Dollar

Third Reverse



2249 1878 7 Tailfeathers, 3rd Reverse. MS-65 (ANACS). Sharply struck and lustrous. Soft champagne at the centers changes to russet and blue toward 4:00 on the obverse. The reverse is similar, but lighter. An attractive specimen.

2250 Carson City dollar quintette, each MS-64, frosty and brilliant: ☆ 1878-CC ☆ 1880-CC ☆ 1881-CC ☆ 1883-CC ☆ 1884-CC. A fine group, indeed. (Total: 5 pieces)

2251 Carson City quartette: ☆ 1878-CC MS-61 ☆ 1882-CC MS-64 ☆ 1883-CC MS-65 ☆ 1884-CC MS-60. An interesting group. (Total: 4 pieces)

2252 A great group of MS-65 Morgan dollars. All are brilliant unless noted: ☆ 1878-S. Lovely, nearly prooflike ☆ 1879-S. 3rd Reverse (2). Some light toning on both ☆ 1880-S (3). Two are prooflike, the third essentially so ☆ 1885-O (2). Some light toning on one ☆ 1887. Lightly toned. (Total: 9 pieces)



2253 1879-CC Large CC over Small CC. MS-62 (ANACS). Bright silvery brilliance with pleasing lustre. A nice example of the repunched mintmark variety which shows very clearly the evidence for labeling it as such. The arcs of the upper portions of a smaller CC mintmark are clearly visible above the final punching. Some of the lower arcs are also visible, though the die does exhibit some of the characteristic die crumbling.



2254 1879-CC Large CC over Small CC. MS-60. Brilliant and lustrous with moderate obverse bagmarks and nicer reverse. This variety is the most common single die variety of the coinage date. A small mintmark was overpunched by a CC of a larger font. Die damage at the area of the mintmark was probably created in an attempt to eliminate or obscure the original mintmark. Breen described this as *severe die rust*, quite incorrect in our opinion, as if this had been the case, there would be much die rust in other recessed areas—namely the lettering in the inscriptions.

2255 A delightful pair of MS-66 Morgan dollars: ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. A nuance of pale rose on the obverse, deeper rose on the reverse ☆ 1881-S. A dusting of pale lavender. (Total: 2 pieces)



2256 1880 Proof-63. A delightful cameo Proof with heavily frosted devices and deep mirrored fields. A few very minor hairlines and other impairments are noted. Just 1,355 Proofs were minted with most survivors in lower numeric grades.

2257 Pair of Carson City dollars: ☆ 1880-CC MS-63. Somewhat prooflike ☆ 1881-CC MS-64. An attractive and lustrous example. (Total: 2 pieces)



2258 1880-O MS-64 (PCGS). Nearly full brilliance with splashes of golden brown toning on the obverse. The reverse displays splashes of gold and golden brown over semi-prooflike surfaces. A rarity so fine.



2259 1880-O MS-64 (PCGS). Satiny surfaces with pale golden toning on the devices. Strong cartwheel lustre graces both sides. Choice for the grade. One of the Morgan dollar dates that are readily available in circulated grades, but which become rarities of some renown in Mint State. This lovely specimen should see spirited bidding competition.

2260 A selection of MS-65 branch mint Morgans. Most are brilliant, though a few have faint golden toning at the rims ☆ 1880-S ☆ 1881-S (3) ☆ 1885-O (2) ☆ 1898-O (3) ☆ 1899-O. (Total: 10 pieces)

2261 Quintette of Carson City silver dollars in original GSA holders: ☆ 1881-CC MS-63 PL ☆ 1882-CC MS-63 ☆ 1883-CC MS-64 ☆ 1883-CC MS-63 ☆ 1885-CC MS-63. All are fully brilliant. (Total: 5 pieces)

2262 Pair of Carson City silver dollars: ☆ 1881-CC MS-62. Brilliant ☆ 1891-CC MS-62. Pale gold in toning. (Total: 2 pieces)

2263 Prooflike Carson City dollar threesome, brilliant unless noted: ☆ 1882-CC MS-63 PL. Deep golden brown toning crescent at the reverse rim ☆ 1883-CC MS-64 PL ☆ 1885-CC MS-64 PL. (Total: 3 pieces)

2264 1882-O MS-64 DMPL (NGC). Silver gray with a whisper of pale gold on both sides. Nice cameo contrast present.

2265 Trio of silver dollars, each graded MS-65 (PCGS): ☆ 1883-O ☆ 1923 (2). Each is brilliant. (Total: 3 pieces)

2266 1883-S MS-62 (ANACS). Radiant cartwheel lustre and mostly brilliant on each side. Some light flecks of golden brown toning is noted near the rims. Sharply struck and attractive.

2267 A grouping of Morgan and Peace dollars, each with some degree of toning: ☆ 1884-CC (2). MS-63 DMPL and MS-63 ☆ 1890 MS-64 ☆ 1921 Peace (4). MS-62 (2), MS-60, and AU-58 ☆ 1925 MS-65 ☆ 1935 MS-64. (Total: 9 pieces)



2268 1884-S AU-58 (NGC). Highly lustrous with a hint of golden toning on both sides. While fairly plentiful in EF or lower, its rarity increases substantially in AU; in Mint State its value and desirability increase dramatically.

2269 1884-S AU-58 (ANACS). Lustrous silver gray surfaces with splashes of reddish orange toning at the rims.

- 2270 1884-S AU-55. Rich milky gray toning on each side with reflective qualities of the original prooflike fields showing through.
- 2271 1885-CC MS-65 (ANACS). Highly lustrous. A lovely example with satiny surfaces. A popular low-mintage Carson City issue.
- 2272 A certified quartette: ☆ 1885-CC MS-64 (PCGS). Brilliant ☆ 1886-S MS-63 PL (ANACS). Pale golden toning ☆ 1900-O/CC MS-62 (ANACS). Pale reddish gold toning ☆ 1901-S MS-61 (ANACS). Lightly toned. A valuable and interesting group. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 2273 Brilliant Uncirculated Morgan dollar quintette: ☆ 1885-O MS-65 ☆ 1897 MS-64 ☆ 1899-O MS-65 ☆ 1901-O MS-64 ☆ 1904-O MS-65. Attractive and desirable. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 2274 Certified quartette: ☆ 1886 MS-65 (NGC). Light golden toning on the peripheries ☆ 1888-O MS-63 DMPL (PCGS). Delicate golden toning ☆ 1926-S MS-64 (PCGS). Very pleasing surfaces ☆ 1935 MS-63 (PCGS). Conservatively graded. A nice grouping. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 2275 1886-O MS-62 (ANACS). Rich rose iridescence on lustrous satiny surfaces. Another date whose importance increases substantially in Mint State. Choice for the grade.

Popular 1889-CC Morgan \$1 Rarity



- 2276 1889-CC AU-50 (ANACS). Lustrous. Mainly brilliant with pale golden highlights. The rarest of the Carson City Morgan dollar issues, and desirable in all grades as a result.

Desirable 1889-CC Morgan \$1



- 2277 1889-CC AU-50. Mostly silvery gray surfaces with some light olive toning in the devices. Some original mint lustre remains in the protected areas. A couple of small gouges are noted at the center of Miss Liberty's cheek, but not large enough to be a serious distraction. A pleasing example of this ever-popular date from the Carson City Mint.
- 2278 1889-CC VF-20. A key-date issue with light brownish gray surfaces, quite natural and very pleasing. This issue is often on collectors' want lists and is sure to receive considerable bidding activity.

- 2279 1889-CC VF-20. A medium gray specimen of this popular rarity. Attractive and affordable.
- 2280 Morgan dollar trio: ☆ 1889-S MS-63. Lustrous and lightly toned ☆ 1890-S MS-63. Brilliant ☆ 1893 MS-60. Light golden toning. An interesting group. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2281 1890 MS-64 DMPL (PCGS). A lustrous cameo dollar of near gem quality. Pale gold and rose highlights on frosted motifs and deep mirror fields.
- 2282 1890-CC MS-64 DMPL (PCGS). Deeply mirrored fields and frosted motifs form a strong cameo contrast. A whisper of golden toning is present on both sides, particularly on the devices. A popular Carson City issue.
- 2283 1890-CC MS-64 (PCGS). Fully lustrous with a whisper of pale champagne toning on satiny surfaces. A spidery obverse die crack runs through the date. An attractive coin for the grade.
- 2284 Carson City trio: 1890-CC MS-63 (ANACS). Brilliant ☆ 1891-CC MS-63 (ANACS). Brilliant ☆ 1892-CC MS-61 (ANACS). Lightly toned on the peripheries. An interesting and valuable group. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2285 Two late-date Carson City dollars, each MS-63, and each delicately toned ☆ 1890-CC ☆ 1891-CC. A nice opportunity. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2286 Threesome of desirable Morgan silver dollars, each graded AU-58: ☆ 1891-CC ☆ 1894-O ☆ 1896-O. All are brilliant and retain nice lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 2287 1891-S MS-65 (ANACS). A satiny and lustrous gem with strong eye appeal for the grade. Brilliant with a hint of rose and gold at the rims. A difficult date to locate at the gem level.
- 2288 1892-CC MS-63. Delightful quality with sharp design details and brilliant silvery white lustre. Although not one of the classic rarities among Carson City Mint silver dollars, this issue is quite elusive in choice Mint State preservation. This is explained in part by the absence of this issue among Treasury Hoard coins.
- 2289 1893 MS-64 (PCGS). Satiny surfaces display strong lustre with a whisper of pale champagne toning. A scarce and popular issue from the "Mother Mint" in Philadelphia.
- 2290 1893 MS-64. Lustrous satiny surfaces with the palest hint of gold toning present. Scarce and popular in Mint State.

Lovely 1893-CC Morgan \$1



- 2291 1893-CC MS-64 (PCGS). A fully brilliant and intensely lustrous example of the date, the final Morgan dollar issue from Nevada's capital city mint. Nicely struck and aesthetically pleasing. Rare so fine.



- 2292 1893-CC MS-62 (ANACS). Lustrous and mostly brilliant at the centers. Blushes of heavy russet appear near the rims.
- 2293 1893-CC MS-61 PL. Prooflike fields with frosty, lustrous devices. A weak impression, typical of this issue, with considerable flatness above the ear and on the center of the reverse.

Key Date 1893-S Morgan Dollar



- 2294 1893-S VF-20. Lilac-gray with deeper toning in the recessed areas. An important key date in all grades, and highly collectible in VF. Free of major marks and quite pleasing for the assigned grade.
- 2295 1894-S MS-62 (ANACS). Brilliant and lustrous. A relatively plentiful branch mint issue when compared to others of its era.
- 2296 1895-O AU-50 (ANACS). Lustrous. Mainly brilliant with a whisper of pale gold on each side. A scarce date at AU and higher, and always desirable at that level.
- 2297 Better-date quartette: ☆ 1895-O VF-35 ☆ 1895-S VF-20 ☆ 1896-S EF-45 ☆ 1928 AU-55. (Total: 4 pieces)

Desirable 1895-S Morgan \$1

S Over Horizontal S



- 2298 1895-S VAM-4. S over horizontal S. MS-62 DMPL (ANACS). Bright and flashy prooflike surfaces. Light blushes of soft gold are noted. Signs of the erroneously punched mintmark are visible under low magnification. One of the popular VAM Top 100 varieties.
- 2299 ANACS certified trio: ☆ 1896-O AU-58. Lightly toned ☆ 1897-O AU-58. Lightly toned ☆ 1893-S EF-45. Lightly toned. A very desirable group. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2300 1899-S MS-64. Lustrous surfaces and mostly brilliant save for arcs of toning at the rims.

Important Mint State 1901 \$1



- 2301 1901 MS-61 (ANACS). A lustrous example of a scarce Philadelphia issue, a date that is seldom found in Mint State despite its somewhat generous mintage of more than 6.9 million coins. In fact, a Mint State example of the date is worth *many multiples* of its counterpart in AU grade.

MS-65 DMPL 1902-O Morgan \$1



- 2302 1902-O MS-65 DMPL (NGC). Lustrous. Completely mirrored devices and fields with only a touch of cameo contrast. A splash of deep violet is seen on the obverse, while some pale violet highlights grace the reverse. Scarce at the assigned grade level. NGC Census: 13; 1 finer, MS-66 DMPL.

Richly Toned Proof 1904 \$1



- 2303 1904 Proof-64.** Deep iridescent steel gray with bright sky blue toning on the high points. One of only 650 Proofs of the date struck, the fourth lowest Proof production figure in the Morgan dollar series, 1878-1904.

From Stack's sale of June 1994, Lot 1383.

- 2304 1921 Peace.** MS-64 (NGC). Intermingled rose and medium gold highlights on satiny silver gray surfaces. The high relief details are fairly strong above Liberty's ear, an area that is frequently found wanting of design on this date. Struck in high relief in this year only; later Peace dollars (1922-1935) are from dies cut in lower relief.

- 2305 1925-S MS-64 (NGC).** Attractive rose and orange-gold iridescence evenly distributed on both sides. A lustrous, satiny coin of near-gem quality.

- 2306 1935-S MS-64 (ANACS).** Brilliant and satiny, displaying bright original mint lustre on each side. A few light surface marks are noted.

TRADE DOLLARS

We have always liked trade dollars, representing as they do one of the most historically interesting of all American coin denominations of the era. The present offering begins with the first year of issue, 1873, and continues intermittently to include a number of later issues, highlighted by several pieces of remarkable quality.



- 2307 1873 MS-64.** Lustrous satiny surfaces display even champagne highlights. A touch of pebbly roughness is seen in the reverse field below and around RICA.

- 2308** Pair of 1873 trade dollars struck at the Philadelphia Mint ☆ AU-50 ☆ Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, with scratches. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 2309 Two San Francisco Mint trade dollars:** ☆ 1875-S AU-58 ☆ 1876-S Type I/Type II. MS-60. Both faintly toned. (Total: 2 pieces)

Gem 1875-S/CC Trade Dollar

Certified MS-65



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2310 1875-S/CC Type I/I. MS-65 (NGC).** Frosty lustre with light brown toning. Relatively sharp strike with a few very minor marks. The remnants of the old CC mintmark are clearly visible. This is possibly the finest example of this variety known. Considering that this is the only overmintmark in the trade dollar series, and that trade dollars have become increasingly popular in recent years, the present offering is, indeed, of extreme importance and significance.

It is believed that Bob Medlar, the distinguished Texas numismatist (first doing business from Lubbock, and then later moving to San Antonio, where in the twilight years of his dealership he had a very fine office across the plaza from the Alamo), the time being the early 1960s. The first auction appearance cited was the piece catalogued by New Netherlands Coin Company for its sale in December 1963. In time, the variety became well publicized, more pieces were examined, and additional coins came to light. Still, in Mint State the 1875-S/CC remains scarce, and in grades such as MS-63 or MS-64 it is quite rare. Regarding MS-65, the present piece, as noted, may be the finest in existence. In 1993 when Dave Bowers was completing his extensive research on trade dollars published in *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, he was not able to locate a single piece at the MS-65 level.

The reported mintage of 4,487,000 trade dollars of the 1875-S issue (including normal and overmintmark varieties) was accomplished from 31 obverse and 32 reverse dies. For reverse dies, the average mintage was 140,218 coins per die, giving a suggested mintage range for the presently offered variety.

Proof 1876 Trade Dollar

Type I Obverse

Type II Reverse



- 2311 1876 Type I/II. Proof-63.** Light golden brown toning with very lightly reflective fields and little cameo contrast. Minor hairlines are noted in the fields. An important centennial year offering.

Collectors with a technical turn of mind can acquire three distinctly different Proof varieties of this year, these being the Type I/I, Type I/II (as offered here), and the Type II/II, certainly an unusual situation.

- 2312 1876-S Type II/II. EF-45.** Medium golden gray. Surfaces lightly brushed at one time.

- 2313 1877 MS-63.** Deep golden brown with iridescent peripheral toning, the reverse lighter. *Rather sharply struck for this issue*, although slightly weak at the upper left obverse, the two stars above Miss Liberty's branch arm flat. This is typical of almost every known 1877 trade dollar, those that are fully struck being extremely rare. A desirable example.

Gem Mint State 1877-CC Trade \$1

A Condition Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2314 1877-CC MS-65 (NGC).** Satiny lustre is subdued by golden brown toning. Sharply struck with all design details bold, even including the minute individual feather detail in the eagle's wings and tail. Extremely desirable as the finest certified 1877-CC trade dollar, one MS-65 reported for NGC and one other for PCGS.

Of all Carson City Mint trade dollars, only 1874 and 1875 can be considered reasonably common. The other dates are all rare in Mint State, with 1873-CC and 1876-CC being approximately tied for rarest, and 1877-CC and 1878-CC approximately tied for third place. The 1878-CC has historically been the publicized rarity of the series, however, as more interest develops, the other dates are closing the gap.

Gem Proof 1879 Trade \$1

- 2315 1879 Proof-65 (PCGS).** A delightful gem Proof trade dollar. Each side is bright silvery white at the centers, slowly giving way to blended russet and electric blue. The devices are sharp and heavily frosted in strong contrast to the deeply mirrored Proof fields. A beautiful example, sure to please. The total mintage of 1879 trade dollars consisted of 1,541 Proofs. This was the proverbial beginning of the end of the trade dollar series as no more business strikes were issued through the final year of striking in 1885.



GOLD DOLLARS

- 2316 Gold dollars by the dozen:** ☆ 1849 Open Wreath, L on Truncation (2). AU-50 and EF-40 ☆ 1850 AU-50 ☆ 1851 AU-55 ☆ 1852 AU-58 ☆ 1853 (5). AU-50 (4), and EF-40 ☆ 1861 Net EF-40; AU-55, bent ☆ 1862 AU-50. (Total: 12 pieces)



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2317 1849-C Closed Wreath. EF-45.** Pleasing quality with slight weakness as usually found. Light greenish gold with a trace of orange toning and lustre adhering to the devices. The obverse die was anything but plane in the fields, giving resultant specimens a bulged appearance. This is true of all authentic examples from the die. The present piece is quite attractive and will make a nice addition to a collection. It is also important as the first year of the denomination.

Lustrous 1849-D Gold \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2318 1849-D AU-58 (PCGS).** Open Wreath, as are all 1849-D gold dollars. Highly lustrous with the visual impact of a higher grade. One of 21,588 gold dollars coined in Dahlonega during the first year of the denomination. A few tiny reverse marks can be seen under low magnification, and are mentioned solely for accuracy.
- 2319 1849-D EF-40 (ANACS).** Natural medium orange gold with very choice surfaces for the grade. Another specimen of the first year of the gold dollar and, necessarily, the first Dahlonega Mint gold dollar.
- 2320 Two popular gold dollar issues:** ☆ 1849-O Open Wreath. EF-45 ☆ 1886 AU-58. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2321 Assortment of Type I gold dollars from the 1850s, each grading AU-55:** ☆ 1850 ☆ 1851 (2) ☆ 1852 ☆ 1853 (3). Each of the preceding is brilliant and sharply struck, save for a single 1853-dated example which has light rose toning. A very attractive group. (Total: 7 pieces)



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2322 1850-C EF-45 (NGC).** Attractive light yellow gold surfaces with traces of remaining lustre. A few light surface marks are expected for this issue. Just 6,966 coins were struck, the second lowest gold dollar mintage at Charlotte.
- 2323 1851-C EF-45 (PCGS).** At the opposite end of the spectrum from the 1850-C offered above, this issue is the most common Charlotte Mint gold dollar, from a mintage of 41,267 coins. Medium yellow gold with deep orange toning and scattered surface marks, all very minor. A very pleasing Charlotte Mint gold dollar for the type collector.
- 2324 1852-C EF-40 (PCGS).** Light greenish gold with considerable remaining lustre. This is an attractive coin that we feel is very conservatively graded. Quite sharply struck in comparison to others of this issue. This variety has a repunched 1 in the date. A small imperfection in the rim at 10:00 on the obverse appears to be as struck.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2325 1853 MS-63.** Attractive light yellow gold with frosty mint lustre and very sharp design details. A lovely coin for the type collector, or for the variety collector. The latter group will be especially interested in several obverse and reverse die cracks.
- 2326 Three Mint State 1853 gold dollars:** ☆ MS-62 ☆ MS-60 (2). (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2327 Quintette of gold dollars illustrating all three major design types:** ☆ 1853 (2). AU-58 and AU-55 ☆ 1854 Type I AU-58 ☆ 1855 VF-20 ☆ 1880 AU-50. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 2328 Half-dozen gold dollars, each net graded:** ☆ 1853 Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-50, brushed ☆ 1854 Type I. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-55, dented ☆ 1870 Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, brushed ☆ 1871 Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-50, cleaned ☆ 1884 Net VF-35; sharpness of AU-50, cleaned ☆ 1888 Net VF-20; sharpness of AU-50, tooled. (Total: 6 pieces)

Lovely 1853-C Gold Dollar



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2329 1853-C AU-55 (NGC).** Pleasing medium yellow gold with faint greenish gold toning. Nearly complete lustre with pleasing surfaces. A few minor hairlines and other abrasions are noted. Slightly weak strike, typical for this issue which Doug Winter described as "the most poorly struck date of this type."



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2330 1853-D EF-40 (PCGS).** Natural dark greenish gold with deep orange toning. A few very minor marks are visible, however, this is a lovely coin overall. Just 6,583 were struck.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2331 1854 Type I. MS-63.** Frosty bright yellow gold with a few very faint hairlines keeping this out of the gem category. Final year of the Type I design and a lovely coin for the type collector. Extremely sharp strike with light clashmarks visible on the reverse.

Mint State 1854-S Type I Gold \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2332 1854-S Type I. MS-62.** A lustrous golden orange specimen from the first year of San Francisco Mint operations, and the only Type I gold dollar from that edifice. Just 12,632 pieces were struck, which adds considerably to the desirability of the date. Sharp and attractive with claims to a higher grade.

If you have not signed up for your copy of Dave Bowers' new book, *The Treasure Ship S.S. Brother Jonathan*, now in the process of being printed, you may wish to do so. Not only is it exciting from a numismatic adventure viewpoint, but it contains the most detailed study of the early years of the San Francisco Mint ever published within two covers.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2333 1854-S Type I. AU-58 (NGC).** Another important specimen from the first year of the San Francisco Mint, a coin that is one of the most attractive in the present offering. Bright yellow gold with nearly complete lustre. A scarce issue in Mint State, from a mintage of just 14,632 coins. This choice AU example should meet with considerable demand.

Desirable 1854 Gold Dollar

Small Indian Head Obverse Type II



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2334 1854 Type II. MS-61 (PCGS).** Frosty orange-gold lustre with a few very minor marks, consistent with the grade. This is a delightful example for the collector of gold coins by design type. Seldom does an example of this scarce design type come on the market with such a degree of aesthetic desirability. Light obverse and reverse clash marks are noted, from the minting process.

Another Desirable 1854 Type II Gold \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2335 1854 Type II. MS-60.** Bright, frosty yellow gold lustre with minor hairlines and surface marks. The obverse has considerable die rust around the borders. Another Mint State example of this scarce design type. Quite elusive at this level.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2336 1854 Type II. AU-58. A lustrous example of one of the most popular design types in the U.S. gold series. Struck from a rusted obverse die, evidence of which can be seen in and around the legend.

2337 1854 Type II. AU-55. Highly lustrous with warm olive toning. Struck from clashed dies. A few faint obverse scratches appear when viewed under low magnification.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2338 1855 Type II. AU-58. Frosty surfaces show plenty of lustre and a touch of pale olive toning. Struck from lightly clashed dies.

Important 1856-S Type II Gold \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2339 1856-S Type II. Breen-6045. Double Mintmark. MS-62 (PCGS). Sharply struck with prooflike obverse and frosty reverse. This is a very pleasing example of the issue, a rarity in Mint State preservation. The reverse has a sharply doubled mintmark, and is the interesting variety with partially effaced original mintmark above and right of the final mintmark.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2340 1856-S Type II. EF-40 (PCGS). Light greenish yellow gold with traces of lustre. Sharply struck and attractive, despite a few minor surface abrasions. This example is from the perfect

mintmark die, much scarcer than the doubled mintmark variety, at least in our opinion. Walter Breen, in his *Complete Encyclopedia*, inferred that the doubled mintmark variety is scarcer.

Breen suggested that the early die state of the doubled mintmark variety is worth more, and that later states, with the doubling much weaker, are worth the same as the normal mintmark variety.

2341 1857-S EF-45 (NGC). Light orange-gold with faint greenish toning. Numerous light surface marks are noted. This is a very scarce issue, one of just 10,000 minted.

When Dave was working on his book, *The Treasure Ship S.S. Brother Jonathan*, and was gathering information concerning the early days of the San Francisco Mint, he desired to include a photograph of the first year of issue of each of the different denominations and designs. He suggested that one of our staffers look through our photographic archives—which includes tens of thousands of pictures—he thought that an 1857-S could be found easily. However, not a single one was in sight, seemingly reflective that year in and year out, in auctions and in price lists, we had never photographed an example! Thus, on a buying trip Mark Borckardt was asked to keep a weather eye out for an example, and an appropriate piece was secured and photographed. Sometimes the rarity of a coin is not realized until you actually start looking for one!

1858-S Gold Dollar Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2342 1858-S AU-58. Sharp and lustrous with a few faint hairlines noted for accuracy. A rare date in all grades, even more so than its low mintage of 10,000 pieces indicates. Nearly always encountered in the VF to EF range. David Akers called this date "extremely underrated compared to other more glamorous dates in this popular series."

2343 1858-S EF-45 (NGC). Light yellow gold with considerable lustre. Light rose toning is noted at the border left of the wreath. Minor surface marks are noted, however, none are worthy of individual description.

Traces of extra metal appear inside the upper loop of the final 8, an interesting aspect when viewed under magnification.

Rare 1859-C Gold Dollar

Final Charlotte Issue



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2344 1859-C AU-55 (PCGS). Bright yellow gold with a trace of orange on the reverse. Reflective surfaces on obverse and reverse. This is a less than full strike, typical of all known examples. The reverse exhibits a few surface marks and weakness inside the wreath, also typical for this coinage issue. This is the

rarest Charlotte Mint gold dollar other than the 1849-C Open Wreath issue of which only a few are known. Further, although the Charlotte Mint remained open through early 1861, the 1859-C represents the final gold dollar production.

2345 1859-S EF-45 (NGC). Moderately lustrous with pale rose highlights. This issue is quite scarce in all grades, although market values do not reflect this. Only 15,000 were struck, and virtually all were placed into circulation where they acquired wear and, eventually, were lost or melted. Today the coin is a *sleeper* in the series.

2346 1859-S EF-40 (PCGS). Bright yellow gold with deeper gold toning. Traces of lustre remain in the protected areas around the devices. Another example of this scarce issue.

2347 Trio of gold dollars from the early 1860s: ☆ 1860 AU-55 ☆ 1861 AU-53 ☆ 1862 AU-55. (Total: 3 pieces)



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2348 1860-S AU-58 (PCGS). A highly lustrous bright yellow gold example of this scarce issue, one of just 13,000 struck. Slightly doubled mintmark, visible at the lower left serif. A few minor surface marks are visible in the fields. This is a very attractive example which is quite elusive in Mint State quality. The current choice AU-58 example provides an important opportunity.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2349 1862 MS-63 (PCGS). A satiny and lustrous example of a popular Civil War date. Delightful rose highlights present on both sides.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2350 1863 AU-50. Golden orange toning on lightly brushed surfaces. A scarce date, one that saw just 6,200 business strikes produced.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2351 1870-S AU-55 (PCGS). A pleasing example with greenish yellow gold lustre. A few light impairments are noted including a small scratch on Miss Liberty's cheek that requires individual notification. From an early die state with minute traces of repunching on the mintmark.

The 1870-S is one of the more interesting of all gold dollars. The mintage was recorded at just 3,000 pieces, automatically making it a rarity. Beyond that, there is the interesting story that, apparently, a reverse die was sent from Philadelphia (where all dies, including those for branch mints, were made) to San Francisco, inadvertently omitting the "S" mintmark. It has been theorized that perhaps 1,000 were struck without a mintmark, making them appear as Philadelphia coins. If true, this would give a net mintage of just 2,000 for the 1870-S.

The entire story of the 1870-S coinage, including the present gold dollar, would make an interesting feature for one of the monthly magazines such as *Coins* or *COINage* (just a hint).

2352 1871 AU-55. Lustrous with reflective fields and frosty devices. Warm rose highlights on both sides. Just 3,900 business strikes of this date were struck. Scarce in any season, the 1871-S dollar is highly desirable. And yet, the market value is only a few hundred dollars!!!

Gem Mint State 1873 Gold \$1

Open 3



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2353 1873 Open 3. MS-65 (PCGS). An intensely lustrous gem with splashes of iridescent rose and sky blue on satiny surfaces.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2354 1883 MS-63. Frosty devices and satiny fields that border on prooflike exhibit warm olive toning and strong lustre.

Gem Uncirculated 1889 Gold \$1



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2355 1889 MS-65.** A lustrous and satiny gem from the final year of the denomination. Pale rose toning.

This represents the last year of the gold dollar. It is a little known fact that by this time gold dollars were no longer available at face value at banks or in circulation. Their scarcity was realized, and in order to acquire them one had to pay a slight premium.

QUARTER EAGLES

Lustrous 1808 Quarter Eagle Rarity
Only Year of Design Type

(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2356 1808 Breen-6125, Breen-1A. Rarity-4. AU-58 (PCGS).** Brilliant yellow gold surfaces display strong lustre and a decent strike for the date. Somewhat prooflike in areas. The only year of Capped Bust Left quarter eagle coinage; only 2,710 examples of the date were produced. Certainly a desirable item when found so fine. Chiefly free of major marks, although a small but noticeable vertical scratch is noted after the D in the reverse denomination.

Although the 1808 quarter eagle is sufficiently rare in its own right—based upon the mintage and its truly considerable fame—is derived from the fact that only in this single year was this particular design made. Thus, anyone attempting to build a set of United States gold coinage by design types must, of necessity, acquire an 1808. Among those known, nearly all are in grades below the present piece, with typical preservations being in the VF to EF range. As such, not only will this coin attract attention because of its importance as a design type, but also because of its truly outstanding condition.

Designed by John Reich. His alleged calling card, a small notch in a point of the 13th obverse star, is present.

- 2357 Pair of Classic Head quarter eagles:** ☆ 1834 B-6138. EF-45 ☆ 1836 Breen-6143. VF-35. Both are pleasing for the grade. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 2358 Trio of Liberty Head quarter eagles:** ☆ 1843 EF-45 ☆ 1851 EF-45 ☆ 1852 EF-45. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 2359 Half-dozen quarter eagles of the Liberty Head design type:** ☆ 1845 AU-50 ☆ 1852 AU-58 ☆ 1873 Closed 3. AU-58 ☆ 1905 AU-58 and AU-50 (2) ☆ 1907 AU-55. (Total: 6 pieces).



- 2360 1847-D Breen-6191. Repunched Date. Net EF-45;** sharpness of AU-50, lightly cleaned and with some light obverse scratches. Warm orange gold with lustre in the recessed areas. The mintmark has been lightly flattened by contact with another coin.

In his *Encyclopedia*, Walter Breen calls this variety an overdate, noting "Strong repunching at bases of 47, not matching curves of 7." This example clearly shows that the repunching at the bottom of the 7 is obviously just that, the bottom of a 7, not a 6 as Breen suspected (unless that writer saw a different state of the die or there is some other explanation of which we are not aware).

Lovely Prooflike 1857-D \$2.50
Just 2,364 Minted

(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2361 1857-D AU-58 (PCGS).** Brilliant and highly lustrous with reflective fields and lightly frosted devices. Regarding the average condition of this rarity, Breen wrote: "Usually VF to EF," making this offering of a choice AU specimen all the more appealing.

Among quarter eagles of this era, the 1857-D is one of just a handful with incredibly low mintages, in the present instance just 2,364 pieces. In the era in which these were struck, there was absolutely no numismatic interest in collecting coins by mintmarks. Those few people who did aspire to build cabinets of quarter eagles were content with acquiring the *date* and seldom even looked at the reverse of a coin. Thus, such pieces slipped into circulation without notice. In the ensuing years they saw hard, intense wear, with the result that most became worn and abraded down to what we would call VF or EF today. Only a few survived in grades retaining mint lustre. Thus, the present coin is indeed exceptional, one that the specialist will appreciate, and which will no doubt attract an even finer audience as well. Grading is a matter of opinion, and it will be seen from the PCGS information below that there are few pieces that are much finer than the one offered here.

PCGS Population: 10; 8 finer (MS-61 highest).

- 2362 Trio of Liberty Head quarter eagles, each net graded:** ☆ 1861 Net VF-35; sharpness of AU-50, cleaned and tooled ☆ 1878 Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned ☆ 1904 Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned. (Total: 3 pieces)

2363 1866-S EF-45. A lustrous golden specimen of a fairly scarce San Francisco quarter eagle. This date is typically found in VF or lower, with nice EF specimens such as this difficult to locate.

2364 Trio of Liberty Head quarter eagles, each graded MS-62: ☆ 1897 ☆ 1898 ☆ 1900. Each coin is sharply struck and fully lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

Proof 1898 \$2.50



2365 1898 Proof-61. An attractive cameo Proof with a few light hairlines consistent with the grade. This is good news for the collector of moderate means, as the price realized should remain at a reasonable level. Extremely attractive for the grade.

Lovely 1900 Proof \$2.50

A Cameo Delight



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2366 1900 Proof-64 Cameo (NGC). Bright yellow gold with extremely deep mirrors on both obverse and reverse. The devices are heavily frosted, creating a visual treat. A few tiny orange toning spots along with a few very faint hairlines are noted, however, these are purely consistent with the grade assigned by NGC. A most attractive Proof quarter eagle for the type collector.

2367 Trio of Mint State-60 quarter eagles: ☆ 1900 ☆ 1905 ☆ 1906. (Total: 3 pieces)

2368 1904 MS-63. Lustrous with splashes of warm golden toning in the recessed areas.

Attractive 1905 Proof \$2.50



2369 1905 Proof-61. Deeply mirrored with very light traces of cameo contrast. A highly attractive example for the grade level with a few very minor hairlines. Just 144 Proofs were minted, of which probably half have disappeared. The present coin is quite desirable from a numismatic viewpoint, and offers the opportunity to acquire a rarity for a fraction of the price of a gem specimen.



2370 1907 MS-63. A lustrous and satiny coin with strong eye appeal for the grade. The final year of this long-lived (1840-1907) design type.



2371 1908 MS-64 (PCGS). An attractive coin with satiny surfaces and strong cartwheel lustre. From the first year of Bela Lyon Pratt's incused Indian quarter eagle design type.

In 1907 when the Saint-Gaudens \$10 and \$20 appeared on the American scene, they were heralded in advance, many stories appeared in the popular press, and just about everyone knew of their existence. In sharp contrast, the 1908 \$2.50 and \$5 coinage by Pratt was developed in relative secrecy, with scarcely a clue given to the numismatic community. All of a sudden they appeared on the scene, much to the surprise of just about everyone.

This particular design featured the field or background of the coin as the highest area, with the designs incuse or recessed—just the opposite of the standard procedure among earlier American issues. The field, being unprotected, was susceptible to acquiring abrasions, with the result that it was only a short time before most pieces were in grades scarcely better than what we would call MS-60 today, or even at the AU level. Years later, when these coins became highly desired by numismatists, it was found that relatively few choice and gem Mint State Indian Head quarter eagles and half eagles existed of any dates.

This said, the coin offered here is not only remarkable for its quality, but is also desirable as the first year of issue.

2372 Partial collection of Indian quarter eagles: ☆ 1909 EF-45 ☆ 1910 AU-50 ☆ 1911 AU-58 ☆ 1912 AU-58 ☆ 1914 AU-55 ☆ 1914-D AU-58 ☆ 1915 AU-50. (Total : 7 pieces)

2373 Trio of Indian quarter eagles, each MS-61: ☆ 1915 ☆ 1928 ☆ 1929. Each is brilliant and fully lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

2374 1926 MS-63. Deep rose toning on lustrous and frosty surfaces.



2375 1927 MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous satiny surfaces display a pleasing blend of rose and olive toning.

THREE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES

2376 1854 EF-40. Light greenish gold with a few minor surface marks, including a short scratch at the top of the obverse. The first year of issue for this denomination.

In this year the word DOLLARS is in smaller letters on the reverse.



2377 1856-S Breen-6355. Medium Mintmark. EF-40. Warm golden surfaces with rose highlights and lustre in the protected areas. Nearly always seen in VF or lower, with EF and higher speci-

mens found few and far between. Variety with die break at bottom of second L in DOLLARS.



2378 1857 AU-50. Strong lustre on satiny surfaces with some deep rose toning in the recessed areas.

2379 1858 EF-40. Lustrous with attractive deep golden highlights. The first in a long run of low-mintage Philadelphia issues within the series. This is one of the lowest mintages of all early quarter eagles, with just 2,133 made for circulation. The number in existence today is probably fewer than 200, and may be fewer than 100. Years ago the offering of an 1858 \$3 piece in any grade was viewed as a special event. Today, the distinction has been lost in the shuffle, as virtually all extant 1858 \$3 pieces are in worn grades, with scarcely a Mint State piece ever offered. Thus, such pieces were not caught up in the "high number sweepstakes" that are so popular especially with well-moneyed collectors who come into the market for the first time.

However, history reveals that the 1858 is one of the classics in the series, a piece that was rare decades ago and is rarer still today. Accordingly, the present piece is highly desirable and is deserving of a strong bid from the old-time collector and specialist (newcomers are invited to learn more and to participate).



2380 1860 AU-50. A lustrous coin with rich orange toning in the recessed areas. A scarce date in all grades.

2381 1862 VF-25 (PCI). In a PCI red label holder (denoting a problem coin) marked "VF-25 Jewelry Damage, Mount Removed." A filler example of a scarce date.

Lustrous Low-Mintage 1864 \$3



2382 1864 Breen-6370. Repunched 18. AU-58 (NGC). Sharp and lustrous, with just a hint of rubbing separating this from the Mint State level. Bill Fivaz once stated, in effect, that coins seemed to jump away from AU-58 to lower Mint State levels such as MS-62 or MS-63, and perhaps that statement can be applied to this coin as well. Except for the rubbing mentioned, the fields, if graded alone, are indicative of a very nice Mint State piece.

The desirability and rarity of the 1864 \$3 has been known for a long time and, apart from few numismatic appearances, is immediately reflected by the low mintage figure of only 2,630 business strikes.

2383 1869 Net VF-30; sharpness of EF-40 or marginally finer, but lightly polished. Still a wholly acceptable example of this scarce date, one of just 2,500 business strikes of the date produced.

2384 1874 EF-40. Much lustre remains on the surfaces of this popular and highly collectible date.

2385 1874 EF-40. Pleasing light green-gold with very choice surfaces. A candidate for the type collector, this is one of just three dates that are relatively common. Of course, no coin of this denomination is really all that common.

2386 1878 Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, but lightly brushed long ago. Still lustrous and attractive.

HALF EAGLES

Our offering of half eagles includes many attractive specimens, early and late, with several choice and gem offerings that will appeal to advanced specialists.

Scarce 1799 Half Eagle

Breen-4H



2387 1799 Breen-6437, Breen-4H. Rarity-6+. Large Reverse Stars. Net VF-30; sharpness of EF-45, however, repaired in the upper right obverse field, below R in LIBERTY. As best we can determine, some small damage occurred that was filled on the obverse only, as there is no evidence of any reverse repair. Light greenish gold with faint orange toning. A few other minor surface marks are visible. This is a scarcer variety, with just over a dozen examples currently known to us.

Both dies are cracked, the obverse having a bisecting crack through the digit 7, the hair and cap, to the right side of L and the border. The reverse has a crack from the border to the right top of D, following the curve and base of this letter to the base of ITE. Two other minor reverse cracks are also noted.

Mint State 1813 Half Eagle

Impressive Quality



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2388 1813 Breen-6467, B-1A. Rarity-3. MS-64 (NGC). Sharply struck with frosty greenish gold lustre. Very choice quality with every detail sharply defined. A few very minor marks are noted. Light clash marks are noted in the blank spaces that form the letters in LIBERTY, along with the spaces between shield stripes. This is a scarce coin in choice Mint State, as are all early half eagles minted prior to the Classic Head design of 1834. Also, this is the first year of the design type, an important consideration.

Although the basic design type continued through 1829, the first three years from 1813 to 1815 represent a distinct design type, the dies being engraved by John Reich. It has been determined that engraver Reich signed his coinage dies. Many dies of the era during which Reich was active, have a "scalloped" point on the lower right star (usually star 13). This is simply a small notch out of one star point, most often the point closest to the bust, however, in this case the point closest to the border. A close-up illustration, above, illustrates this scalloped point.

Beginning in 1818 (no half eagles were struck in 1816 or 1817), the design was modified by Robert Scot, this modification lasting to the end of the design.

Delightful Mint State 1838 Classic Head \$5



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2389 1838 Breen-6515. Small Arrows, Large 5. MS-64 (PCGS). A satiny beauty with warm olive highlights on lustrous honey gold surfaces. A lovely specimen of near-gem quality with many claims to a higher grade. Certainly, its current grade holds up well under careful scrutiny. Among the remaining examples of the 1838 half eagle, probably more than 99% are in grades less than Mint State, with even a higher percentage below the MS-64 level offered here. In fact, as offered, the present coin is a *major rarity*. Moreover, it is sharply struck and has excellent details. David Akers wrote of this date: "Average Uncirculated examples are seen from time to time but truly choice Uncirculated pieces are very rare." Sharply struck, with full star and hair details on the obverse, and with full eagle details on the reverse.

On the reverse of this variety, the A, T, E, and final S in STATES are widely spaced.



2390 1840-O Breen-6530. Narrow Mill. AU-50. Highly lustrous yellow gold. Much scarcer than its modest mintage of 40,120 pieces indicates. A few tiny marks are seen when viewed under magnification, but the overall appeal is certainly strong for the assigned grade. When encountered the 1840-O nearly always shows extensive wear, as do other New Orleans gold coins of the era. At the present grade level the coin is scarce, possibly even *rare*.



2391 1842 Breen-6537. Small Date, Large Letters. AU-50. Pale honey gold surfaces and decent lustre. Perhaps lightly cleaned long ago, but the overall integrity of the grade is intact. At this level the 1842 half eagle is very scarce, as most are in lower grades such as VF or EF.

- 2392 Quintette of Liberty Head half eagles: ☆ 1846 EF-45 ☆ 1898-S AU-50 ☆ 1900 AU-55 ☆ 1902-S AU-58 ☆ 1907-D AU-58. (Total: 5 pieces)

Mint State 1846-C Half Eagle

An Important Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2393 1846-C MS-61 (PCGS). Bright greenish yellow gold with frosty lustre. A few minor surface marks are noted, however, overall this is a very nice quality example for the grade. Very sharply struck from perfect dies, no evidence of die cracks, clash marks or other defects noted. Most certainly one of the finest five or six examples in existence.

Doug Winter, in his reference on coins of the Charlotte Mint, noted that "this date is, unquestionably, one of the rarest of all Charlotte half eagles, and even a piece which grades Very Fine is very desirable." Winter further noted that just two or three Mint State examples survive. The past pedigree of this example is not known, however, it is very possibly one of two different examples from the Jacob Shapiro (J.F. Bell) Collection, both described as Uncirculated.

Jake Shapiro's son, David, was active in the coin trade a number of years ago, and was a principal of the newly formed RARCOA, this having descended from Ben's Stamp & Coin Company of Chicago. David, a gentleman of the highest order, did much for the PNG and for numismatics in general. Among other things that could be said about David, your editor recalls that he once spotted me wearing a Timex or some other such watch, and stated that this would not do, I should have something more expensive and fashionable. Thus, he acquired a watch for me wholesale, I don't remember the brand, but it was quite nice. Later, in just the opposite of conspicuous consumption, we reverted to a Timex. Still later, George Humphrey's, who bought and sold classic watches, convinced us that we should have a Patek Philippe, so we did this for a while. But, only for a while.

- 2394 1846-D Repunched mintmark. Breen-6565. VF-30. Medium golden surfaces display a hint of lustre in the protected areas. A faint reverse scratch is noted for accuracy.

A classic blunder. The mintmark was first punched far too high, then repunched in a slightly lower position, with little or no attempt made to efface the high mintmark from the die.

Near-Gem 1861 Half Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2395 1861 MS-64 (PCGS). A lovely near-gem specimen with intense lustre and pale rose highlights on smooth satiny surfaces. Struck in the first year of the Civil War, this prize half eagle certainly survived that conflict better than the Confederacy. Be forewarned, to see this coin is to love it.

Lustrous \$5 Group

- 2396 Half-dozen Liberty Head half eagles, each MS-62: ☆ 1881 ☆ 1881-S ☆ 1885-S ☆ 1886-S ☆ 1899 ☆ 1904. Each is sharply struck and highly lustrous. (Total: 6 pieces)
- 2397 Quintette of MS-62 Liberty Head half eagles: ☆ 1881 ☆ 1882 ☆ 1886-S (2) ☆ 1900. Each is brilliant, lustrous, and highly attractive. (Total: 5 pieces)

Another Lustrous Lineup of \$5 Gold

- 2398 Quintette of Liberty half eagles, each grading MS-60 or slightly finer: ☆ 1882-S ☆ 1885 ☆ 1886-S ☆ 1892-S ☆ 1897. Each coin is a pleasing example of the design. (Total: 5 pieces)



- 2399 1883-S MS-60. Highly lustrous with olive toning highlights. A few well-hidden marks from a finer grade.

Underrated Mint State 1888-S \$5



2400 1888-S MS-62 (NGC). Strong cartwheel lustre on lively golden surfaces. A touch of olive toning is present. A rare date in Mint State despite its sizable mintage of nearly 294,000 pieces. Walter Breen noted that this particular variety is "usually very fine, very rare above," reflective of the hard use that these pieces received. No attention whatsoever was paid to collecting gold coins by mintmarks, and the survival of a Mint State piece is strictly a matter of happenstance. The present coin is a quite pleasing example at the MS-62 level and will be widely appreciated as it crosses the auction block.

NGC Census: 7; 1 finer (MS-63).

In his 1892 monograph, *Mint Marks*, Augustus G. Heaton stated that he knew of no one in the entire numismatic world who collected high-denomination (\$5, \$10, and \$20) gold coins by mintmark varieties. At the time Heaton was very well connected, and was a prominent numismatic writer and club official, and had done much research. Thus, the comment is particularly important when reflected upon today.

Attractive 1893-CC Half Eagle



2401 1893-CC AU-55. Light orange-gold lustre with very sharp design details. This is an attractive example with moderate surface marks, however, none that are individually distracting. From the final year of Carson City Mint production. A scarce issue which is very rare in full Mint State quality.

2402 1899 MS-63 (PCGS). Satiny surfaces exhibit strong cartwheel lustre and bright rose iridescence.

Frosty 1899-S Half Eagle



2403 1899-S MS-64 (NGC). Blazing lustre leaps from satiny golden surfaces. Difficult to locate at this grade.

2404 Half-dozen 20th-century Liberty Head half eagles, each MS-60: ☆ 1901/0-S Overdate ☆ 1903-S ☆ 1904 ☆ 1906-D ☆ 1908 Liberty (2). Each coin is brilliant and attractive. (Total: 6 pieces)

2405 1901-S MS-63. Glittering satiny surfaces display attractive olive iridescence.

2406 1902 MS-61 (PCGS). Warm rose lustre on smooth satiny surfaces. Substantially finer overall than the assigned grade implies.



2407 1902-S MS-64 (PCGS). Satiny honey gold surfaces exhibit strong lustre. A popular San Francisco Mint issue.

Superb 1908-S Indian Half Eagle

Finest Certified by NGC



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2408 1908-S Indian. MS-67 (NGC). A superb gem Mint State example of this first Indian half eagle issue from the San Francisco Mint. Sharply struck with rich orange-gold lustre and a few splashes of orange toning on the obverse. This issue is generally found in lower grades, seldom in gem preservation.

Considering the great popularity of the Indian Head series, and the fact that NGC has graded no finer specimen, and that this coin is a marvelous gem, we expect all caution to be thrown to the wind when this piece comes up for bidding. Anything goes, but whatever goes, the price set will then be the basis for future competition should another example ever appear on the market. It is often the case that today's record price is tomorrow's bargain. Moreover, the successful bidder on this coin will possess it, while everyone else will still be searching.

NGC Census: 2; none finer.

As noted in our earlier offering of a 1908 quarter eagle (Lot 2371), quarter eagles and half eagles of the Indian Head type are quite elusive in Mint State. Beyond the *elusive* category is the *rare* category, which certainly applies to the present 1908-S. What few 1908 quarter eagles that exist in Mint State are apt to be Philadelphia coins, less often Denver Mint coins, and only very rarely—such as in the present instance, a piece from San Francisco.

Choice Mint State 1908-S Indian \$5

Low-Mintage Issue



2409 1908-S MS-63 (PCGS). Intense cartwheel lustre on satiny surfaces. A whisper of pale rose increases the beauty of the coin. A lovely Indian half eagle that reaffirms the parameters of "choice." From a reasonably small mintage of 82,000 pieces; only the 1909-O rarity has a lower mintage in the Indian half eagle series.

Lovely Gem 1909 Half Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2410 1909 MS-65 (PCGS). Sharply struck with bright yellow gold lustre. The lustre is intermediate between satiny and frosty, a characteristic of certain gold coins of this era. The 1909 is not scarce as a date, but at the gem level examples are seldom seen. A *find* for the specialist.

More than any variety in the Indian Head series, the 1909-D turns up in Mint State. Accordingly, this and the next lot provide a nice opportunity to get a very attractive coin for a type set.

Near-Gem 1909 Half Eagle



2411 1909 MS-64 (PCGS). Honey gold surfaces display rose and olive highlights. The mint lustre seems to glow upon (rather than *flash* across) the surfaces. Nicely struck. A few tiny reverse marks are all that stand between the assigned grade and a higher designation.

Lustrous Mint State 1909-D \$5



2412 1909-D MS-64 (PCGS). Highly lustrous with rich orange-gold toning. Easily the most popular date in the Indian half eagle series in Mint State. A nice example for the grade.

Another Lustrous 1909-D \$5



2413 1909-D MS-64 (PCGS). Rich rose toning on lustrous satiny surfaces. There is no shortage of eye appeal where this coin is concerned.

Yet Another Mint State 1909-D \$5



2414 1909-D MS-64 (PCGS). Another lustrous example of this ever-popular date. Rose and olive iridescence grace the satiny surfaces.

Near-Gem 1911 Indian \$5



2415 1911 MS-64. Satiny and lustrous, lightly toned with attractive rose highlights. A lovely near-gem specimen that holds up well to close scrutiny.

2416 Pair of mintmarked 1911 half eagles: ☆ 1911-D AU-50 ☆ 1911-S AU-55. (Total: 2 pieces)

Lovely Mint State 1912 \$5



2417 1912 MS-64 (PCGS). An attractive example of the issue with light yellow gold lustre and sharp design details. Although not rare as a date, the 1912 issue becomes increasingly scarce in better Mint State grades, with MS-64 and better examples being quite elusive. Of course, this same comment can be made for every issue in the Indian half eagle series.

Lovely Mint State 1914 \$5



2418 1914 MS-64 (PCGS). Warm gold and iridescent heather toning highlights. A satiny and lustrous coin of near-gem quality. An attractive coin for the grade.

Flashy 1915 Indian Half Eagle



2419 1915 MS-64 (PCGS). A highly lustrous, *flashy* if you will, example of a popular Philadelphia Mint issue. Satiny surfaces display attractive rose iridescence. A great combination of quality and appearance.

EAGLES

Our offering of \$10 gold eagles includes a number of interesting and highly important Liberty Head and Indian types, beginning with a lovely 1847, continuing to include the remarkably rare and quite famous 1870-CC, and progressing to several high-grade Indian issues.

Important Mint State 1847 \$10

Tied for Finest Graded by PCGS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2420 1847 MS-63 (PCGS). Intense lustre glows brightly on warm honey gold surfaces with a hint of rose on the reverse. A satiny specimen possessed of delightful aesthetic appeal. Sharply struck in all areas of the design, and with an absolute minimum of marks and abrasions present. Reverse with remnants of a hollow ring atop the second set of vertical stripes, similar to other reverse dies used later in the 1850s. Perhaps the finest known of the date; it is certainly difficult to imagine another MS-63 specimen being this attractive.

PCGS Population: 3; none finer.



2421 1848 AU-55. Light greenish gold with considerable, nearly complete lustre. A few minor surface marks are noted. One of the very finest of the date, virtually unknown in full Mint State.



2422 1853-O Breen-6909. Repunched 53. AU-50. Strong lustre and attractive orange toning in the recessed areas. Rarer in AU (or higher) than even its modest mintage of 51,000 pieces suggests. When encountered, the 1853-O is apt to be in such grades as VF or EF, both of which are quite desirable, of course.

This variety displays a hollow ring atop the second vertical stripe in the reverse shield, probably a centering mark not effaced from the die before it was used.

2423 Quartette of Liberty Head gold eagles: ☆ 1855 EF-45 ☆ 1891-CC AU-50 ☆ 1899 AU-58 ☆ 1901 AU-58. (Total: 4 pieces)

2424 1859 EF-40. Medium honey gold with a hint of lustre in the protected areas. A few stray marks are noted, none of which are of major proportions. A noted rarity from the Philadelphia Mint, and a date that is considered rare in all grades; just 16,093 business strikes were produced. EF examples of this date are about as fine as can be found.

Rare 1870-CC Eagle

First from the Carson City Mint



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2425 1870-CC EF-40 (NGC). A lovely example with orange-gold surfaces and scattered marks consistent with the grade. The early Carson City Mint gold coins are often very heavily marked. This example does not follow the usual trend. Very faint traces of lustre are found in the protected areas of the fields around the devices. Just 5,908 coins were struck, a relatively low mintage, however, the percentage of survivors is quite low, approximately .05%. Probably less than 30 exist today. There are very few high-grade examples of this issue, the definition of high grade being EF-40 or better.

One of our theories—we don't know if it has been picked up elsewhere or not, but we have certainly mentioned it several times in our catalogues—is that the method of distribution of Carson City gold coins falls into two ranges: those of the early years, 1870-1872, which seemed to have circulated in the American West, and those of the later years, 1873-1893, which saw a wider distribution, including in export shipments. When studying these pieces today, it is seen that those of the early range are usually more worn, with fine, VF, and EF being normal, and with EF being actually a very *high* grade. In contrast, among later issue Carson City gold coins, such as in the early 1890s, AU pieces are seen with some frequency, and even Mint State coins are encountered now and then.

Lovely 1870-S Eagle

A Condition Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2426 1870-S AU-53 (ICG). A superb example at this grade level with bright yellow gold lustre featuring a trace of pinkish orange toning. Sharply struck with all details quite bold. This is one of the very finest of all survivors from an original mintage of just 9,000 coins. Most of these survivors grade no higher than Very Fine. Reports exist of just one Mint State coin and another choice AU example, these both listed in *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia*. This example is most certainly one of the very finest known coins of this issue, probably among the top half dozen known.

Choice Mint State 1880 \$10



2427 1880 MS-63 (PCGS). Highly lustrous with iridescent rose highlights on satiny surfaces. A fairly scarce date in Mint State despite its generous mintage of more than 1.6 million pieces.

2428 1881-CC EF-45. Lovely lustre remains on the honey gold surfaces of this popular issue. This date's modest mintage of 24,015 pieces actually makes this the most *plentiful* eagle issue from the Carson City Mint, 1870-1890.



2429 1882-CC AU-50. Pale olive-gold toning, lustrous in the recessed areas. Lightly brushed. One of just 6,764 eagles of the date struck in Carson City. Quite a bit has been written about this issue over the years. Not only is it of low mintage, but most coins seem to have disappeared in one way or another, with the result that today pieces are even rarer than the low mintage would suggest. Moreover, it is appropriate to quote Walter Breen, who stated that the 1882-CC is "Prohibitively rare above EF."

2430 1893 MS-63 PL. Lustrous golden orange surfaces. Strong contrast between the frosted devices and the deeply mirrored fields creates an enchanting cameo appearance.

2431 1897-S MS-60 (ANACS). Satiny surfaces display strong cartwheel lustre and pleasing rose iridescence. Typically found VF to EF, and actually fairly rare in Mint State. Akers called this "a very scarce and underrated date and totally undeserving of its common date status in the standard pricing guides." Attractive for the grade.

2432 1899-S MS-62 PL. Lustrous orange-gold surfaces display some pleasant cameo contrast between the devices and the fields. Moderately scarce in Mint State.

2433 Pair of 1901-dated \$10 gold pieces. Each is brilliant and highly attractive: ☆ 1901 MS-62 ☆ 1901-S MS-60. (Total: 2 pieces)

2434 Pair of 20th-century Liberty Head gold eagles: ☆ 1901 AU-50 ☆ 1905-S EF-45. (Total: 2 pieces)

2435 Pair of Indian eagles, each graded MS-61 (PCGS). Both reverse design types are represented: ☆ 1907 No Motto. Lustrous bright yellow gradually changing to golden brown and very deep steel around the edges. An attractive example ☆ 1932. Lustrous bright yellow gold. (Total: 2 pieces)

2436 Trio of Indian eagles, each AU: ☆ 1907 No Motto. AU-55 ☆ 1910 AU-53 ☆ 1915 AU-50. (Total: 3 pieces)

Lustrous MS-64 1908-D Indian Eagle

No Motto



2437 1908-D No Motto. MS-64 (NGC). Intense lustre on satiny orange-gold surfaces. A splash or two of rose adds to the overall appeal. Considerably rarer than its fair-sized mintage of 210,000 pieces indicates, especially so in choice Mint State. A date that is typically found weakly struck at the centers and lacking substantial lustre; this specimen is a pleasing exception to both those rules-of-thumb. An opportunity not to be missed.

NGC Census: 2; 5 finer (MS-66 finest).

Four Indian Eagles

2438 Quartette of Indian eagles, each MS-60: ☆ 1909 ☆ 1910 (2) ☆ 1914. (Total: 4 pieces)

2439 Pair of 1911-dated Indian Head eagles, each from the Philadelphia Mint: ☆ AU-58 ☆ AU-55. (Total: 2 pieces)

Uncirculated 1911-D Indian \$10



2440 1911-D MS-62 (PCGS). Strong cartwheel lustre graces warm golden orange surfaces. One of just 30,100 examples of the date struck, the lowest regular-issue mintage figure in the Indian eagle series. Typically found VF to EF, with Uncirculated specimens being very elusive. Among Indian Head \$10 pieces of the entire range, 1907-1933, the Mint State 1911-D is one of the more elusive varieties. Indeed, even an MS-60 coin would be notable. The present piece, graded MS-62, is particularly nice.

Near-Gem 1912-S Indian \$10



2441 1912-S MS-64 (PCGS). Lively cartwheel lustre graces the satiny deep rose surfaces of this scarce Indian eagle. Splashes of sky blue iridescence add to the overall appeal. An important San Francisco Mint issue, particularly when so finely preserved.

Two small obverse planchet laminations are noted, as struck, an unusual occurrence in the Indian eagle series. One is at the truncation of Liberty's neck, and the other is in the field at the front of her headband.

Memorable 1913-S Eagle Rarity



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2442 1913-S MS-64 (PCGS). Blazing cartwheel lustre on satiny rich golden orange surfaces. Certainly one of the rarest of the Indian eagles, and one that is nearly always encountered in VF to EF. In Mint State the 1913-S seems to have eluded numismatists. Very few collectors were interested in such pieces at the time they were made, and only a few survived later. In checking, Frank Van Valen of our staff was not able to find a comparably graded coin offered at auction since 1996. Once the present piece is sold, it certainly will be a challenge to acquire its counterpart. A strong bid is recommended.

PCGS Population: 6; 2 finer (MS-65).

Mint State 1916-S Indian Eagle



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2443 1916-S MS-64 (PCGS). Very sharply struck with superb, satiny orange-gold lustre. Thanks to two small hoards discovered over 20 years ago, and now widely dispersed, Mint State 1916-S eagles are available to collectors. This is the only San Francisco Mint eagle that is easily obtainable in Mint State preservation. Despite this, the issue is still very scarce in higher Mint State levels, such as offered here. Most of the hoard coins were in the range of MS-60 to 63.

DOUBLE EAGLES

The following listing of double eagles is a very nice complement to the *Brother Jonathan* pieces offered in a separate catalogue and, of course, is in no way competitive, as the *Brother Jonathan* offering is unique in American numismatic and numismatic history. In the present catalogue, we begin with a Mint State 1850, a truly important, truly notable coin. From that point we continue, offering a number of interesting "types" as well as several scarce and rare varieties.

Extraordinary 1850 Double Eagle

Choice Mint State
Among the Finest Known



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2444 1850 MS-63 (NGC). This is an outstanding bright yellow gold specimen from the premier offering of double eagles for circulation and trade. The previous year saw production of patterns only. Every design detail is impeccably reproduced, the surfaces virtually pristine, with only a few very faint hairlines and other minute flaws. The reverse has a very thin die crack

through the tops of TED. This is the Breen-7142 variety with Open 5 in date and broken A in STATES.

The double eagle denomination was established in response to the discovery of gold in California, and the need to provide a convenient size coin for transactions of large value. The double eagle provided a larger denomination to reduce the quantity of coins for any transaction, and yet was not so large (*i.e.*, fifty-dollar gold coin) as to become inconvenient for smaller value transactions.

The 1850 double eagle is important as the first year of circulating issue of the denomination. Mintage was substantial, and before year's end, 1,170,261 had dropped from the coining presses in Philadelphia, the source typically being bullion brought from California. At the time not a single numismatist is known to have collected \$20 pieces. As large, impressive, and interesting as they may be to the modern community, they simply did not attract the attention of what few collectors were active—probably somewhere between 100 and 200 serious enthusiasts. Accordingly, the survival of an example in Mint State is a matter of chance, *rare chance*. Add to the rarity aspect the status of this piece as the first year of the denomination and its desirability as a "type" coin and we have all the elements for a very strong bid. And, indeed, the new owner will be very proud of this piece—it is at once beautiful and rare.

These coins were authorized by an act of March 3, 1849, which also authorized the gold dollar. The text of this act is reproduced below.

Act of March 3, 1849

Authorizing the coinage of gold dollars and double eagles.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be, from time to time, struck and coined at the Mint of the United States and the branches thereof, conformably in all respects to law (except that on the reverse of the gold dollar the figure of the eagle shall be omitted), and conformably in all respects to the standard for gold coins now established by law, coins of gold of the following denomination and values, viz; double eagles, each to be of the value of twenty dollars, or units, and gold dollars, each to be of the value of one dollar, or unit.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That for all sums whatsoever, the double eagle shall be a legal tender for twenty dollars and the gold dollar shall be a legal tender for one dollar.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all laws now in force in relation to the coins of the United States, and the striking and coining of the same, shall so far as applicable, have full force and effect in relation to the coins herein authorized, whether the said laws are penal or otherwise; and whether they are for preventing counterfeiting or abasement, for protecting the currency, for regulating and guarding the process of striking and coining, and the preparations therefor, or for the security of the coin, or for any other purpose.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That, in adjusting the weights of gold coin henceforward, the following deviations from the standard weight shall not be exceeded in any of the single pieces—namely, in the double eagle, the eagle, and the half eagle, one half of a grain, and in the quarter eagle and gold dollar, one quarter of a grain; and that in weighing a large number of pieces together, when delivered from the chief coiner to the treasurer, and from the treasurer to the depositors, the deviation from the standard weight shall not exceed three penny weights in one thousand double eagles, two penny weights in one thousand eagles, one and one half penny weights in one thousand half eagles, one penny weight in one thousand quarter eagles, and one half penny weight in one thousand gold dollars.

- 2445 1861 AU-58 (PCGS). A satiny and lustrous coin with the overall appearance of MS-63 or so.
- 2446 1874-S AU-55. Lustrous orange-gold surfaces with a touch of rose toning. A popular San Francisco Mint issue.

- 2447 1878 MS-61 (PCGS). Frosty and lustrous with pale olive highlights.

- 2448 1880-S MS-60. A lustrous example of a date about which Akers wrote: "In strictly Uncirculated condition it is definitely rare, much rarer, in fact, than many more highly touted dates in the series." Nearly always seen in VF to EF, this Mint State specimen affords the double eagle specialist a great opportunity to acquire a noted "sleeper" in the series.

- 2449 1882-CC EF-45. Lustrous light yellow gold with sharp design details. An attractive double eagle from the popular western Mint. The mintage of 39,140 is squarely in the middle of the mintage range for all dates, ranking as the 12th lowest mintage of 19 issues.

- 2450 1883-CC EF-40. Medium yellow gold with traces of lustre remaining in the protected areas around the devices. An affordable Carson City Mint issue.

- 2451 1883-S MS-61. Lustrous with rose and olive highlights. An attractive coin for the grade.



- 2452 1884-CC AU-58. A lovely example with bright yellow gold lustre and minor surface marks, quite common to these large gold coins. From a relatively large mintage of 81,139 coins, however, very few remain in similar or higher grades.

- 2453 1884-CC Net EF-45; sharpness and appearance of AU-55 but with the faint granularity of seawater surfaces. Lustrous with olive highlights. A popular Carson City Mint double eagle issue.

- 2454 1884-CC EF-40. Light yellow gold with considerable remaining lustre. A few minor rim marks are noted, especially on the obverse. A desirable example of this issue.

- 2455 1891-S AU-55. Lustrous with the overall appeal of a higher grade.

- 2456 1893-CC EF-45. Lustrous bright yellow gold with a tinge of orange. A few minor hairlines are noted in the left obverse field, along with a tiny rim bruise at 10:30. An attractive and desirable example of the final Carson City Mint double eagle.

- 2457 1894 MS-62 (NGC). Rose iridescence on lustrous honey gold surfaces.



- 2458 1895 MS-63. Strong lustre on satiny surfaces. A touch of attractive olive toning is present. Somewhat prooflike, particularly on the obverse where a pleasing (if somewhat modest) cameo is presented.

Coronet Double Eagle Group

- 2459 Trio of Liberty Head double eagles, each grading MS-60: ☆ 1895-S ☆ 1897-S ☆ 1900. Each is brilliant with frosty lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 2460 1897 MS-62 (NGC). Satiny surfaces display olive iridescence. Attractive for the grade.

- 2461 Pair of 1897 double eagles, each grading MS-62 (NGC). Both coins are fully brilliant with frosty mint lustre. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 2462 1898-S MS-63. Fully brilliant and highly lustrous.

- 2463 1898-S MS-62 (PCGS). Highly lustrous with pale rose toning highlights. Choice for the assigned grade, with an absolute minimum of marks and abrasions present.

- 2464 1900 MS-62. Fully brilliant with attractive rose toning highlights. The reverse is considerably finer than the obverse.

- 2465 1900 MS-62. A lustrous coin with the overall appeal and appearance of a finer grade.

From our sale of the Hayward Collection, September 1997, Lot 1346.

- 2466 Pair of 1900-dated issues, each grading MS-62 (NGC). Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

- 2467 1900-S MS-62 (NGC). Superb cartwheel lustre on satiny surfaces. Choice for the grade.

Coronet \$20 Trio

- 2468 Trio of Liberty Head double eagles, each attractive and desirable: ☆ 1901 MS-60 ☆ 1903-S AU-50 ☆ 1904 AU-58. (Total: 3 pieces)

- 2469 1904 MS-63. Lustrous. An ever-popular date.

- 2470 1904 MS-63. Lustrous with pale olive toning highlights.

1904 Double Eagle Trio

- 2471 Trio of 1904-dated double eagles, each brilliant and highly lustrous. Each MS-62 (PCGS). An opportunity to acquire three very nice Mint State coins for your collection. (Total: 3 pieces)

Five 1904 Double Eagles

- 2472 Important offering of five 1904-dated double eagles, each MS-62 (NGC).** Each coin is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 5 pieces)

Five More 1904 Double Eagles

- 2473 Another opportunity to acquire five examples of the 1904 issue, each MS-62 (NGC).** Each of these is sharply struck and fully brilliant. (Total: 5 pieces)
- 2474 1904 MS-61 PL.** A glittering mirrorlike double eagle with the appearance of a finer grade overall.
From our sale of the Rossi & Wilson Collections, May 1997, Lot 2420.
- 2475 1904 MS-61 (ANACS).** Satiny surfaces exhibit strong cartwheel lustre.
- 2476 1904-S MS-62 (NGC).** A highly lustrous example of a popular branch mint issue.

Lovely Mint State 1905-S \$20



- 2477 1905-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Broad swaths of intense cartwheel lustre cascade about the satiny surfaces of this near-gem San Francisco Mint double eagle. A hint of prooflike reflectivity in the fields imparts slight but appealing cameo effects on both sides. A nice coin overall.
- Most of the San Francisco Mint issues of this era were used intensively in overseas commerce and acquired many bagmarks and other problems. The present coin seems to have escaped.

MCMVII High Relief \$20



- 2478 MCMVII (1907) High Relief.** Net VF-20; sharpness of AU-55, jewelry mount removed. This is a very attractive coin despite light polishing. The surfaces have a slightly grainy appearance, likely from being used as jewelry. Some type of mount was attached to the top edge and has since been removed. The edge is smooth from 10:30 to 1:30.
- The story of the famous MCMVII High Relief \$20 is well known, and should the bidder on this coin not be aware of the fascinating dialogue involving president Theodore Roosevelt, noted sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, and Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber, we would be happy to pro-

vide copies. Get set for, perhaps, a half hour of reading—as the history is rich, romantic, and extensive!

Suffice it to say that this issue was beautiful when it was first made, and ever since that time numismatists have appreciated it as one of the most attractive of all American coin motifs.

- 2479 Two Saint-Gaudens double eagles:** ☆ 1907 Arabic Numerals. AU-50 ☆ 1925 MS-60. Both lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2480 Pair of Saint-Gaudens double eagles featuring two different reverse design types.** Each is graded MS-63 (NGC): ☆ 1908 No Motto ☆ 1922. (Total: 2 pieces)

Saint-Gaudens \$20 Trio

- 2481 Trio of Saint-Gaudens double eagles:** ☆ 1908 No Motto. MS-62 ☆ 1911-D MS-60 ☆ 1915-S MS-62. Each of these is highly attractive with brilliant lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2482 Trio of Saint-Gaudens double eagles:** ☆ 1908 No Motto. AU-58 ☆ 1908-D No Motto. AU-58 ☆ 1911-D AU-50. (Total: 3 pieces)



- 2483 1915-S MS-65 (NGC).** Lustrous and brilliant with a touch of olive toning. Some tiny reverse copper spots are noted.



- 2484 1915-S MS-65 (NGC).** A lustrous specimen of a popular San Francisco Mint issue.



- 2485 1915-S MS-65 (NGC).** A satiny gem with pale rose toning on both sides.
- 2486 Trio of issues from the 1920s:** ☆ 1922 MS-62 ☆ 1924 AU-58 ☆ 1927 MS-64. The latter coin has bright orange-gold lustre. (Total: 3 pieces)

Choice 1922-S Double Eagle



2487 1922-S MS-64 (PCGS). Sharply struck with lovely bright yellow gold lustre. The lustre is frosty with faint greenish toning at the borders. An extremely attractive example of this popular coinage issue. At one time, this issue was a prime rarity in the Saint-Gaudens series, however, thanks to several small and mid-sized hoards, the 1922-S double eagle is relatively common today. Among all mintmarked issues in the 1920s, this is the second most common, with only the 1923-D more common.

Superb 1924 Double Eagle

Virtual Perfection



2488 1924 MS-67 (PCGS). A coin of extraordinary quality with bright satiny yellow gold lustre and splashes of rose toning. Every detail is extremely bold and the surfaces are pristine. Don't be fooled by the common date status of the 1924 double eagle. Examples in this quality do not come on the market with any frequency. Please allow us to explain: PCGS has graded over 125,000 1924 double eagles MS-60 or better! Of this total, only 39 coins have been graded MS-67 with none finer. In other words, *one MS-67 example is certified by PCGS for every 3,200 coins they evaluate.*

Gem Uncirculated 1924 \$20



2489 1924 MS-66 (PCGS). A satiny gem with lustrous surfaces awash with vibrant rose iridescence.

1924 \$20 Trio

2490 Trio of MS-63 double eagles dated 1924, each certified by PCGS. Each is lustrous and attractive, one example lightly toned. (Total: 3 pieces)

2491 Pair of 1924 Saint-Gaudens double eagles grading MS-63. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 2 pieces)

Saint-Gaudens \$20 Group

2492 Trio of Saint-Gaudens double eagles: ☆ 1924 MS-62 (2) ☆ 1927 MS-62. (Total: 3 pieces)

Three Saint-Gaudens Double Eagles

2493 Trio of double eagles from the 1920s: ☆ 1924 MS-60 ☆ 1927 MS-60 (2). A lustrous trio of gold coins. (Total: 3 pieces)

Choice Mint State 1924-D \$20 Rarity

Lustrous, Satiny Surfaces



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2494 1924-D MS-64 (NGC). A lustrous, satiny specimen of one of the scarcer double eagles of this era. While the mintage figure for the variety is large, it is quite likely that most were held back by the Treasury Department and melted after March 1933, under the edicts by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. To-

day the number extant is only in the hundreds (compare this to the situation described under Lot 2488!), and of these, only a small percentage can match the quality here offered.

For the double eagle enthusiast this represents a very important opportunity to acquire a beautiful specimen of a famous rarity.



- 2495 1925 MS-65. Intense golden lustre is coupled with a whisper of rose iridescence. A satiny gem.

Three 1925 Double Eagles

- 2496 Trio of 1925-dated issues, each PCGS certified MS-62. These coins are brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)
- 2497 1927 MS-65 (NGC). Satiny golden surfaces exhibit lively rose iridescence.
- 2498 1927 MS-65 (NGC). Subdued lustre on satiny olive surfaces.
- 2499 Pair of high-quality double eagles: ☆ 1927 MS-64 ☆ 1928 MS-64. Each is very attractive with full and bright yellow gold lustre. (Total: 2 pieces)

1927 \$20 Quartette

- 2500 Quartette of 1927-dated double eagles, each grading MS-63 (NGC): All four of these coins display lovely bright orange-gold lustre. (Total: 4 pieces)
- 2501 Pair of 1928 MS-63 Saint-Gaudens issues, each coin certified by PCGS. Each of these is fully brilliant with attractive orange-gold lustre. (Total: 2 pieces)
- 2502 Pair of 1928-dated issues. Each of these coins is graded MS-62 (PCGS). Both coins are sharply struck and fully brilliant with attractive orange-gold lustre. (Total: 2 pieces)

PATTERN COINS



- 2503 1854 pattern cent. Pollock-187, Judd-161. Rarity-4. Liberty Head. Proof-63 BN (ANACS). Copper. Plain edge. Glossy chocolate brown. Similar in style to the contemporary circulating Coronet large cents, but without obverse stars around Liberty. The reverse is also similar to that issue, but with smaller devices.

This is one of several patterns made during this era as part of an effort to

eliminate the old "large" copper cent. At that time the traditional cent was becoming increasingly expensive to produce, and a smaller substitute was desired.



- 2504 1858 pattern cent. P-246, J-202. Rarity-6+. "Small Eagle." Proof-58 (ANACS). Copper-nickel. Plain edge. Attractive honey gold surfaces with hints of rose iridescence. The popular *Skinny Eagle* variety, an issue that is avidly collected alongside the regular-issue Flying Eagle (and Indian cent) series. The dies have been attributed to Anthony Paquet.



- 2505 1858 pattern cent. P-248, J-204. Rarity-5. "Small Eagle." Proof-62 (ANACS). Copper-nickel. Plain edge. Lustrous golden surfaces display a glimpse of pale rose toning. Another of the *Skinny Eagle* varieties. Sharply struck. Attractive for the grade with strong cameo contrast on both sides. Reverse wreath crowned by an ornate shield.



- 2506 1859 pattern cent. P-272, J-228. Indian Head transitional. Proof-63 (ANACS). Copper-nickel. Plain edge. Lustrous honey gold surfaces. From the adopted obverse die of 1859 coupled with the reverse die (with shield at top of wreath) that was later adopted for use in 1860-1909. A popular issue that graces many cabinets of regular-issue Indian cents.

Although ANACS has graded this as a *Proof*, we probably would grade it as a prooflike business strike. The point is moot, as it is popular practice to call virtually all high-grade coins *Proof* no matter whether they are fully mirrorlike. The present piece is partially mirrorlike, and has more prooflike surface than typically seen.

Among pattern Indian cents this is one of the more interesting and desirable. In 1957 the last issue of the *Standard Catalogue of U.S. Coins*, published under the aegis of John J. Ford, Jr., after Wayne Raymond had passed away, lists this particular variety under *regular issues*. One part of the rationale for doing this is that nearly all specimens in high grades are lustrous and frosty, with Mint State "frost" rather than mirror Proof finish. It could be that these were made very late in the year 1859 and were intended for circulation. However, very few worn pieces exist. Some expanded account of the issue is given in the book by Q. David Bowers, *A Buyer's and Enthusiast's Guide to Flying Eagle and Indian Cents*.

1868 Pattern "Large Cent" Rarity

Pollock-675, Judd-610

Struck in Nickel, Rarity-8



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2507 1868 pattern cent. P-675, J-610. Rarity-8. Proof-65 (PCGS).** Nickel. Plain edge. Attractive satiny silver gray with moderately reflective fields and frosted devices. Struck from the exact type dies used to coin Coronet large cents, circa 1843-1857. Die chip on ball of six in date, die line into field from upper right serif of E in STATES, reverse rotated slightly past 180°, all noted diagnostics of this prized pattern rarity. One of perhaps just four known examples of this type struck in nickel (see roster below), and highly desirable as such. Nicely struck considering the lack of malleability of the metal; virtually every detail is present on both sides (some *copper* Coronet large cents are not struck as well).

The ownership of an 1868 cent of the old style is certainly a spectacular treat for the eyes, and we can readily expect that anyone who collects the earlier Coronet series might well recognize this as a grand opportunity to add a coin which no doubt will steal the limelight and be a conversation piece for anyone who sees it.

In his *United States Patterns and Related Issues*, author Andrew Pollock listed the following three specimens of P-610, at that time the only examples of this rarity thought to exist. They are as follows (with the addition of this specimen to Pollock's listing):

1. Bowers and Ruddy, Sieck Collection, July 1981, Lot 2785; Now PCGS: 8335810.
2. J.C. Mitchelson, 1913; Connecticut State Library, Inv. No. 11704.
3. William Doyle, Loye Lauder Collection, December 1983, Lot 526; Now PCGS: 4056064.
4. This specimen, exact provenance unknown; Now PCGS: 3129741.

Walter Breen listed this issue as a *piece de caprice*, Don Taxay considered them to be *simulated series coins*, while Q. David Bowers wrote regarding the issue: "They were probably struck for collectors in the genre of the 1913 Liberty nickel, 1884 and 1885 trade dollars, and Class II and III 1804 dollars."

1867 P-627 Pattern Nickel Five Cents



- 2508 1867 pattern five-cent piece. P-627, J-566. Rarity-6. Liberty Head. Proof-63 (ANACS).** Nickel. Plain edge. Lustrous with golden toning on both sides. Obverse style similar to that found on the nickel three-cent pieces of the era, but slightly larger in diameter than those pieces. Reverse with IN GOD WE TRUST in tiny letters above a wreath, 5/CENTS within the wreath, CENTS in a straight line. Scarce.

1867 Pattern Shield 5¢ in Copper



- 2509 1867 pattern five-cent piece. P-650, J-573. Rarity-6+. Proof-63 BN (ANACS).** Copper. Plain edge. Lustrous golden brown. From the same obverse die used to coin nickels for general circulation, reverse die used to coin Proofs of the date without rays. Rare.

1869 P-775 Standard Silver Dime



- 2510 1869 pattern dime. P-775, J-696. Rarity-5. Proof-63 (ANACS).** Silver. Reeded edge. Lightly frosted devices and mirror fields exhibit a whisper of rose and pale blue toning. Small-sized, about the size of circulating half dimes of the era. On the obverse, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA arcs above, E PLURIBUS UNUM, on a ribbon, curves below a portrait of Liberty facing right, Phrygian cap with stars and ribbons on her head. On the reverse, STANDARD SILVER arcs above, the date appears below, 10/CENTS appears within a wreath. A pleasing design overall.

The Standard Silver pieces were intended to be of lighter weight than the contemporary Liberty Seated coins. At the time, Liberty Seated denominations were being hoarded by the Treasury Department and were not available at par. Instead, their place was taken by a variety of substitutes, most important being the Fractional Currency notes. It was intended in the late 1860s that lighter weight silver coins might be made and put into circulation, with the light weight preventing their hoarding. However, the idea never went beyond the pattern stage.

Lovely 1871 Indian Princess Quarter

James Longacre's Design
Struck Posthumously



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2511 1871 pattern quarter. P-1230, J-1094. Rarity-7. Indian Princess obverse. Proof-64 RB (ANACS). A very pleasing example of this pattern issue featuring the beautiful Indian Princess design by James Longacre. Very sharply struck and nearly equal to the quality of the Bass Foundation example that we offered earlier this month. Deep lilac-brown with substantial mint red throughout. Struck posthumously, an unfortunate situation; James Longacre passed away January 1, 1869 and never saw this lovely design on a finished coin.

Important 1871 Indian Princess Quarter

Superb Gem



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2512 1871 pattern quarter. P-1233, J-1097. Rarity-7. Indian Princess. Proof-66 RB (NGC). Copper. Reeded edge. A lovely ex-

ample of this rare pattern variety with deeply mirrored fields and dark brown cameo devices. Substantial original red remains on both obverse and reverse. The obverse features James Barton Longacre's beautiful Indian Princess design, a work of art that would have added a positive dimension to numismatics in the 19th century. This variety was not included in the offering of patterns from the Harry Bass Research Foundation, sold by us earlier this month.

Lovely 1838 Pattern Half Dollar

Restrike, circa 1860



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

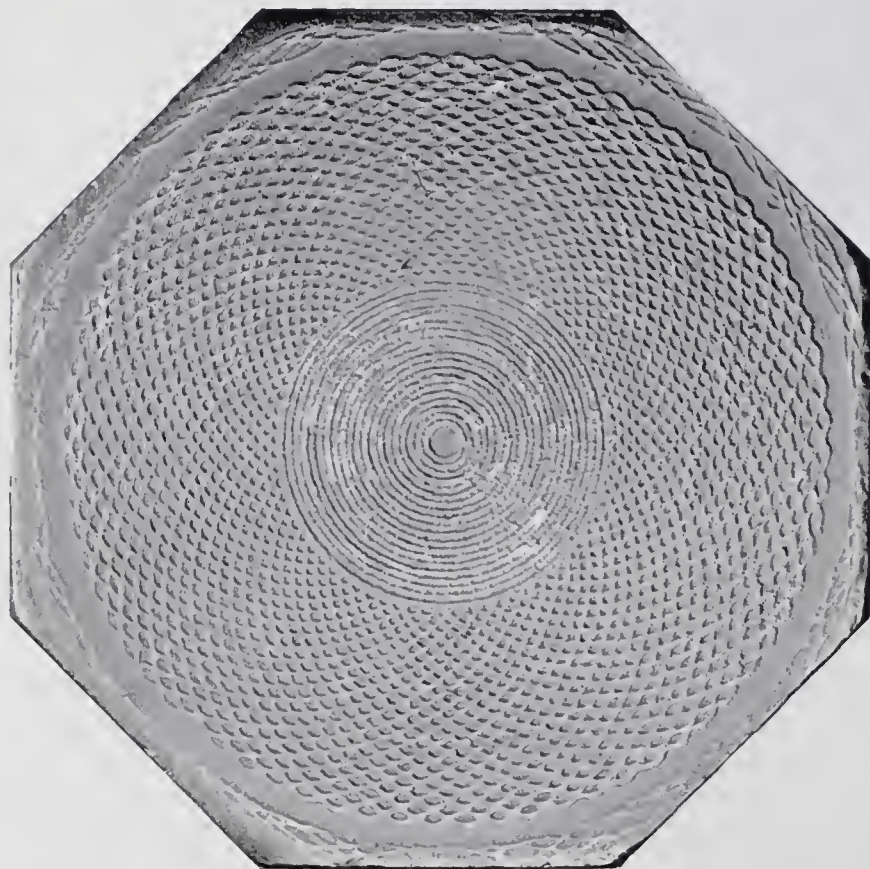
2513 1838 pattern half dollar. P-77, J-73 Restrike. Gobrecht's Liberty obverse. Proof-64 (NGC). Heavy reverse die cracks identify this as a restrike. Deeply toned cameo Proof with dark steel mirrored fields and light silver devices. This is a lovely pattern half dollar featuring a Capped Liberty Head, probably designed by Christian Gobrecht, however, usually attributed to William Kneass. The reverse die was engraved by Gobrecht. As noted, the reverse cracks identify this as a restrike issued in the late 1850s or early 1860s, the exact time unknown. Confirmation of the restrike status would be obtained through weight, however, this is impossible as long as the coin remains in its holder.

Being of an idealistic turn of mind, we think it would be very nice if the various grading services would have an in-gathering of certified pattern coins, weigh them and make other technical notes, and then re-holder them for a nominal charge. For the pattern enthusiast, planchet weights are extremely important (precisely the same comment can be made for certain other series, including colonial and early American coins).

PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS

Attractive Humbert \$50 Gold "Slug"

1851, 880 THOUS.



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

2514 1851 Augustus Humbert. \$50 gold "slug." FIFTY DOLLS, 880 THOUS. on ribbon. Kagin-5. Rarity-5. Net AU-55. Reeded edge. Sharpness of MS-62, but net graded due to salt-water surfaces. An amazing Augustus Humbert slug, without traces of wear or significant defects. Numerous very minor surface marks are present, however. Considerable mint lustre is visible despite the effects of long-term saltwater "storage."

As a class, 1851 \$50 gold "slugs" are fairly scarce, with the total population estimated to be in the hundreds—a small figure in relation to the fantastic historical and romantic importance of the coins. Of those that have come on the market in our generation, the present piece is certainly among the finer examples. In the past, we might have called this "finest known," or something similar, however, with the unknown contents of the *Central America* hoard, we hesitate to make such a claim today.

In our book, *The Treasure Ship S.S. Brother Jonathan*, the story is told of a singer on a San Francisco stage who, according to a contemporary account, was shown appreciation by the audience by then tossing, among other things, \$50 gold pieces at her! Of course, had this been done, she would have required hospitalization. This story is interesting, however, as are so many other tales of the glory days of San Francisco.

The present piece is one of a number of important issues

produced by Augustus Humbert. Later, the facility became known as the United States Assay Office of Gold.

Weight: 1316.6 grains; Diameter: 41.3 mm.

The last major entry in the field of private coinage was Kellogg & Co. of San Francisco, which produced its first coins in 1854.

John Glover Kellogg, of Auburn, New York, came to San Francisco on October 12, 1849. He secured a position with Moffat & Co. and remained with them during the operations of the United States Assay Office of Gold. When the latter institution discontinued business on December 14, 1853, and began the change over of facilities that would lead to the opening of the San Francisco Mint, Kellogg formed a new partnership with G.F. Richter, who earlier had worked with the United States Assay Office as an assayer.

On December 19, 1853, the San Francisco Herald carried this advertisement:

"ASSAY OFFICE. The undersigned, who have been connected with the United States Assay Office from its commencement, have opened an office for melting and assaying gold in the basement of J.P. Haven's Building, No. 106 Montgomery St., one door of Lucas, Turner & Co.'s banking house and nearly opposite Adams & Co. Kellogg & Richter."

On January 14, 1854, a number of leading banking houses of San Francisco and Sacramento addressed a petition to Kellogg & Richter imploring them to produce coins, in the period after which the United States Assay Office of Gold had ceased operations and before the United States Mint at San Francisco had begun. The merchants indicated their willingness to receive any coins that would be produced. Kellogg & Richter jumped at the opportunity, and on February 9, 1854, the first Kellogg \$20 coin was issued.

Following the opening of the San Francisco Mint, production at the government facility was quite limited. Kellogg & Co. therefore did a large business by continuing their private coinage. In one form or another, the Kellogg firm continued until 1860, although the last coins were struck in 1855.

Another 1851 Humbert \$50 Gold "Slug"



- 2515 1851 Augustus Humbert. \$50 gold "slug." FIFTY DOLLS, 880 THOUS. on ribbon. K-5. Rarity-5. VF-30 (PCGS). Reeded edge. A second example of this large, popular private gold coin. Light greenish yellow gold with a few minor marks and a small scrape on the reverse. An interesting feature of the obverse design is the beaded inner circle, 32 millimeters in diameter, which is very close to the diameter of a federal double eagle.

Beautiful 1852/1 Humbert \$10

884 THOUS



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2516 1852/1 Augustus Humbert. \$10. 884 THOUS. K-8. Rarity-5+. AU-58 (NGC). Reeded edge. Each side displays deep toning of russet and pale blue over dark yellow gold. The obverse features a similar eagle motif to that found on the Humbert slug offered previously. The overdated reverse is quickly identified by the prominent bisecting die crack. In his *Encyclopedia*, Walter Breen suggested that different colors of toning seen on such issues could represent different deposits of gold ore. Some account of native California gold and the purity thereof will be found in the book, *The Treasure Ship S.S. Brother Jonathan*.

1852 U.S. Assay Office of Gold \$10

The Eliasberg Specimen



(photo enlarged to twice actual size)

- 2517 1852 U.S. Assay Office of Gold. \$10. 884 THOUS. K-12. Rarity-7+. AU-58. Reeded edge. Pleasing medium yellow gold surfaces free from any noteworthy defects. Some original mint lustre is visible in the protected areas. A very well struck and attractive specimen with boldly defined central details. A rare variety with the additional bonus of a distinguished pedigree.

In September 1850 Congress authorized the secretary of the Treasury to contract with a well-established assaying business in California to affix the stamp of the United States to bars and ingots, to assay gold, and assign value to it. Moffat & Company, the most respected of the San Francisco coiners, received the commission. Appointed to the position of United States assayer was Augustus Humbert, a New York City maker of watch cases. In preparation for the new franchise, in late 1850, Moffat & Co. curtailed most of their private business and prepared to issue coins under the government contract. New premises were secured on Montgomery Street between Clay and Commercial streets. Meanwhile, Humbert secured passage on a ship from New York, and after due transfers arrived in San Francisco in January 8, 1851 (this per recent research by Dan Owens; the earlier conventional wisdom placing his arrival at the end of January).

By the middle of February, production of the new coins, of octagonal shape and of the \$50 denomination, was set to begin. On February 14, 1851 *San Francisco Prices Current* included this:

"The above cut represents the obverse of the United States ingot, or, rather, coin, of the value of \$50, about to be issued at the Government Assay Office. It is precisely of this size and shape... The reverse side bears an impression of rayed work without any inscription. Upon the edges following: 'Augustus Humbert United States Assayer—California Gold 1851.'... The fifty-dollar pieces will be of uniform value, and will be manufactured in the same manner as coins.... By order of the secretary of the Treasury these ingots and coin are to be received for duties and other dues to the United States government, and our bankers, we are advised, will receive them at their stamped value. This will produce an important change in the monetary affairs here, gold dust will immediately go up, and as a necessary consequence foreign and domestic [Eastern] exchange will be at a premium 5 to 7%...."

Early varieties had lettered edges, but soon an economy was effected by using new dies and a reeded edge collar. Pieces of this general style, with several varieties of inscriptions were made in 1851 and 1852.

While the federal standard for gold coinage was 900/1000 fine, in San Francisco in 1851 this was difficult to attain with the refining processes then in use, and the Humbert coinage was of two finenesses, 880 and 887, the latter coins being slightly lighter in overall weight due to the smaller proportion of alloy. The presently offered coin is of the 880 THOUS. style.

Although the Humbert \$50 pieces were clearly produced under government auspices, and although they were receivable for U.S. customs payment in San Francisco, in Philadelphia on April 23, 1851, Mint Director George N. Eckert perversely (it would seem) stated that while Augustus Humbert was the United States Assayer in California, his stamping of bars for owners of bullion did not make them legal tender.

The octagonal \$50 coins remained in circulation in San Francisco for the next few years. It seems that they were gradually taken from commerce, and melted on the West Coast or shipped to the East for conversion at the New York City Assay Office (established in 1854) or the Philadelphia Mint, or shipped to foreign ports. Many were sent to Europe, particularly to London. A newspaper item of January 13, 1853, noted that the steamer *Asia* from New York to Liverpool carried \$200,000 in \$50 pieces from California. Most of these were melted, although the writer recalls the delight expressed by a coin dealer in France in the early 1960s when he was shown one that had been found in a long-hidden gold reserve.

From our sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., Collection, May 1996, Lot 346. Previously from B.H. Collins, October 1899, to J.M. Clapp. Clapp estate, 1942, to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.

Popular 1854 Kellogg & Co. \$20



2518 1854 Kellogg & Co. \$20. K-1b. Rarity-5. EF-45. Some original lustre remains in the protected areas around the devices, highlighted by rich coppery toning on each side. A few very minor hairlines are visible in the satiny obverse fields. All design details are exceptionally sharp. This is a very attractive, quite above-average example of a Kellogg double eagle—a specimen that will be appreciated as one of the nicest at its grade level. Indeed, we can readily imagine that if 10 similarly graded pieces were inspected side by side (an unlikely possibility in actuality), the present coin would be among the top two or three.

Weight: 511.0 grains; Diameter: 34.5 mm.

The United States Assay Office of Gold was the successor in name to the Augustus Humbert offices, although the facilities remained essentially the same: the works of private coiners and assayers, Moffat & Co. owned by the partnership of Curtis, Perry & Ward.

The *Daily Alta California* on March 22, 1853, contained a description of the establishment:

"The machinery made use of by Messrs. Curtis, Perry & Ward is of the same description, made by the same mechanics, and is as perfect in all respects, as that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia. The capacity of their press is such to enable them to coin \$360,000 in \$10 pieces and \$720,000 in \$20 pieces per day, and it keeps up with their facility for drawing, cutting, and adjusting by being worked only a few hours per day. The mechanical execution of the coin itself is fully equal to that of the United States Mint, as will be seen by a comparison of the coins. Too much credit cannot be awarded to Messrs. Curtis, Perry & Ward for the radical change in the facilities for coinage offered by them to the people of this state while at the same time it is advantageous to them personally."

The total production of the United States Assay Office of Gold during the years of its operation is not known. It was estimated during the first quarter of 1851 that \$600,000 worth of coins of the \$50 denomination were made. *Prices Current* on September 30, 1851, noted that the Assay Office had been increasingly busy in recent times and occasionally had attained the production of \$100,000 in \$50 ingots per day. What happened to them all?

Edgar H. Adams noted that certain foreign bankers preferred octagonal ingots to regular American coins, thus leading to the export of huge quantities, some from San Francisco and others from New York City, with destinations being European cities, particularly London. As noted above (under Lot 2514), many of these were melted. In addition, also as noted, quantities were reduced to bullion at the New York City Assay Office and at the Philadelphia Mint.

On December 4, 1853, the United States Assay Office of Gold ceased operations. Machinery and equipment were transferred to the new San Francisco Mint in the same building. The construction contract was given to a Mr. Butler at \$239,000. This was subsequently acquired by Curtis, Perry & Ward, who negotiated a new contract with the secretary of the Treasury. The partnership undertook to provide both the building and machinery. Curtis supervised construction details while Perry tended to the arrangements for the machinery. Part of the Curtis, Perry & Ward establishment was utilized in the construction. The San Francisco Mint, as finished, consisted of a structure 60 feet square and three stories high; 20 feet wider on the western side than the earlier private mint, which measured 40 by 60 feet.

The San Francisco Mint opened for business on April 3, 1854, and on April 15 the first coins, \$20 pieces, were made. In the first year coined were a few \$2.50 and \$5 gold coins and many \$10 and \$20 issues.

END OF SALE

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TERMS OF SALE



1 This is a public auction sale conducted by licensed and bonded auctioneers. All bids are to be per lot. No lots will be broken. Lots will be sold in numerical sequence unless the auctioneer otherwise directs. In the event of identical bids on the same lot, the lot will be awarded to the first bid received. Floor bids will take precedence over mail bids. In the event of a dispute during the floor bidding, the auctioneer's decision to award the lot to a bidder will be final. The auctioneer, at his sole discretion, may re-open any lot or put the lot up for sale again.

2 A buyer's premium of 15% will be added to the hammer price of each lot which sum will be the purchase price. This buyer's premium will be added to all invoices, without exception. (Under the present arrangement, we normally charge a fee to the seller, plus a buyer's premium to the purchaser.)

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4 All lots must be paid in full prior to delivery, unless credit arrangements for this sale have been specifically agreed to in writing by Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc. (subsequently referred to as Bowers and Merena in the present Terms of Sale). Previously established lines of credit, at the sole option of Bowers and Merena, may not be honored. Please contact our Accounting Department in advance if you have any questions regarding your purchasing plans. At the sole discretion of Bowers and Merena, we reserve the right to deny participation in any auction if there have been, in our opinion, credit problems, unreasonable returns, delays in payment, or any other problems in past or current sales. On any account not paid within the prescribed terms of this sale, Bowers and Merena reserves the right to extend credit and to impose periodic finance charges at the rate of 1.5% per month (18% per annum) on the unpaid balance, which charges shall continue to accrue until fully paid. On any sums unpaid, if the account is referred to an attorney for collection, the buyer agrees to pay all costs, including attorneys' fees, with interest accruing on the balance, until fully paid, at the specified rate.

5 Bidders not known to us must furnish references satisfactory to Bowers and Merena and/or deposit a sum equal to 25% of the bids submitted. This sum will be applied to successful bids with the overage refunded within 10 days of the sale date. Any difference will be billed.

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8 We cannot be responsible for errors in bidding. Please check your bid sheet carefully. Please bid in even dollar increments. All bids not in even dollar amounts, including those increased by 10% to 30% (see our special service on the bid sheet), will be rounded off to the lower whole dollar amount. We request that all bid sheets be signed, and we reserve the right to not enter bids on any sheet that has not been signed. Realizing that certain bids may be submitted by fax, telegram, or other means without a signature, we note that in any event, bidding in this auction sale constitutes acceptance by the bidder of all of the Terms of Sale.

9 All items offered in this catalogue are guaranteed to be genuine within the context of the prevailing scholarship of their respective series. Auction sales are not approval sales. Any lot may be examined before bidding.

**FOR BEST
ATTENTION:**

Please submit mail and fax
bids by:
**NOON, FRIDAY,
May 28, 1999**

No lot may be returned by a mail bidder without the advance written permission of Bowers and Merena. Any such request must be made within three days of the receipt of the lot. Any lot that is to be returned (for any reason other than authenticity) must be received in our offices within 30 days from the date of sale. After that 30-day period, no lots may be returned for reasons other than lack of authenticity. Any lot returned must be in its original unopened container or holder. The removal of any item from such container or holder negates the return privilege. The late remittance for purchases is cause for Bowers and Merena to negate this privilege.

10 No lots may be returned for any reason by floor buyers (including those acting as agents for others) or by successful mail bidders who have examined the lots prior to the sale except for reasons of authenticity. The auctioneers reserve the right to postpone or cancel the sale without notice, should they in their sole discretion determine that such action is warranted. Any lot may be withdrawn without notice prior to the sale. Neither the auctioneer nor the consignor will have any obligation to the intended bidders as a result of any postponement, cancellation, or withdrawal.

11 Grading is a subjective description that represents the opinion of the cataloguer as to the state of preservation of a particular coin or lot. A split grade, such as Proof-63/65, refers to a coin which in our opinion has a Proof-63 obverse and Proof-65 reverse. "Proof" is used to describe a method of manufacture and is not a grade or condition. All such terms, including adjectival and numerical descriptions of coins and other numismatic items, are the opinion of Bowers and Merena and are not an attribution. No warranty, whether expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability, is made with respect to such adjectival or numerical descriptions, which can and do vary among experts; nor is any warranty or representation made that any other expert, grading service or other entity will grade a given piece the same as we do; nor is any warranty or representation made that a coin or other numismatic item has not been cleaned, or that the toning of any item is natural, or that there is the absence of any other defect which would render it unsuitable for encapsulation by any grading service or the acceptance by a third party. References to population reports and grading service census figures are as of the cataloguing time, which may be several months prior to the sale date. All such comments are subject to revision; consult recent data issued by the grading services. Certain items that are described as restrikes, or patterns, or colonials, may be struck at dates other than those on the coin, but they are described in accordance with prevailing numismatic custom at the time the sale takes place. By bidding in this sale, the buyer agrees to hold Bowers and Merena harmless for any numismatic item graded and described by a third party grading service and presented as any lot within this catalogue. The buyer further acknowledges that the opinion of Bowers and Merena on any

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will begin 30 minutes before the session at the entrance to the auction room.

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If you have not participated with us before, be sure to send your credit information: Attn: Deborah McDonald, at least 10 days before the auction. There is very little time, if any, to review this information during the auction.

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16 Up to five lots may be grouped with brackets for a ONE LOT ONLY purchase, if you wish to purchase only one example of a coin of which several examples appear in the sale. Such lots should be bracketed on your bid sheet. While we will do our best on your behalf, due to the speed of the auction sale and the sometimes crowded conditions, we cannot be responsible for failure to execute such a bid properly.

17 We invite you to take advantage of the optional 10% to 30% increase to help your chance of being a successful bidder. Check the appropriate place on your bid sheet.

18 Bidding in this auction sale constitutes acceptance by the bidder of the foregoing terms of sale.


Please note: Transparent holders in which the auction lots are stored are to facilitate viewing and inspection of the lots and ARE NOT for long-term storage.


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- ◆ Credit cards will not be accepted for auction deposits or payments.
- ◆ The Prices Realized list will be published approximately 30 days after the auction.


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Bidding in our auctions can be an interesting, enjoyable, and a numismatically rewarding experience. Even if you have been bidding in our sales for many years, you may find that some of the following comments will increase your success. In the event that you wish to ask further questions, phone Cynthia LaCarbonara or Carolyn Craigie.


 Mail your bid sheet as early as possible. This is particularly important if you are a new bidder, for it takes us time to check your references. A bid sheet mailed a few days before the sale might not reach us until a week later—at which time the coins will have been sold to others!


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 Lots may be inspected by mail prior to the auction (except for large or bulk lots, or other multiple-coin lots). Please write or call for further information. Mail inspection requests must be received sufficiently early to permit return to us in time for general lot viewing prior to the sale. The person requesting mail inspection agrees to pay postage and insurance both ways and to insure and be responsible for the pieces in his or her possession.

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